



## Obama Addresses Baltimore at Foundation Launch

President Barack Obama speaks at Lehman College in the Bronx borough of New York, Monday, May 4, 2015. Obama announced the creation of an independent nonprofit organization that is a spin off his "My Brother's Keeper" program, which works to give young men of color more opportunities through mentoring and business partnerships.

(AP Photo/Pablo Martinez Monsivais)  
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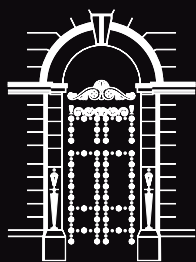
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# Obama addresses Baltimore at Foundation Launch

NEDRA PICKLER  
JIM KUHNHENN  
Associated Press

**NEW YORK (AP)** - In a deeply personal response to outbreaks of racially motivated protests, President Barack Obama on Monday blamed a lack of opportunity in minority communities and harsher treatment of black and Hispanic men by police for fueling a sense of "unfairness and powerlessness." The country's first black president called for a nationwide mobilization to reverse inequalities and said the cause will remain a mission for the rest of his presidency and his life. "There are consequences to indifference," Obama said. Helping launch a foundation to assist young minorities, Obama said the catalysts of protests in Ferguson, Missouri, and in Baltimore were the deaths of black young men and "a feeling that law is not always applied evenly in this country." But he said a broader sense of hopelessness is at the root of the periodic eruptions in poor communities. "We ask police to go into communities where there is no hope," he said. "Eventually, something happens because of the tension between society and these communities, and the police are just on the front lines of that." The new organization, My Brother's Keeper Alliance, is an outgrowth of Obama's year-old My Brother's Keeper initiative, which has focused on federal government policies

and grants designed to increase access to education and jobs. While the effort predates the tensions in Baltimore that erupted after the death of Freddie Gray while in police custody, the significance of the new private-sector alliance has been magnified by the spotlight the riots in the city placed on low-income neighborhoods. Over the past year, Obama has been called on to respond to what he last week referred to as the "slow-rolling crisis" of police relations with minority communities. The friction has been highlighted by Gray's death last month and Michael Brown's death last summer in Ferguson, Missouri. Gray died after sustaining a spinal cord injury while in the custody of Baltimore police. Six police officers were charged last week in connection with his death. Still, Obama praised police officers for putting their lives on the line and singled out Brian Moore, a 25-year-old New York City police officer shot in the head over the weekend while attempting to stop a man suspected of carrying a handgun. "He came from a family of police officers," Obama said. "And the family of fellow officers he joined in the NYPD and across the country deserve our gratitude and our prayers, not just today but every day. They've got a tough job." Obama described the plight of young minority men in deeply personal terms, alluding to his own




President Barack Obama, right, alongside Scott Davis, participates in a roundtable discussion with young people before delivering remarks at the launch of My Brother's Keeper Alliance held at Lehman College in the Bronx borough of New York, Monday, May 4, 2015.  
(Susan Watts/The Daily News via AP, Pool)

youth raised by a single mother. "I grew up without a dad. I grew up lost sometimes and adrift, not having a sense of a clear path," he said, adding that he was lucky because he was in an environment where people cared for him. "Really that's what this comes down to, do we love these kids?" he said. With high-profile names and an ambitious focus, the alliance is a possible building block for Obama's post-presidential pursuits. Obama has less than two years left in his and the new institution would likely sustain its work well after he leaves the White House. But White House spokesman

Josh Earnest said the foundation wouldn't necessarily be the vehicle for what Obama chooses to do. The White House sought to distinguish the operation of the organization from Bill and Hillary Clinton's family foundation, whose financing has attracted criticism. Earnest said decisions about who could give to the group and the reporting of donations would be made by the board of directors. "The White House will not be involved in determining what their fundraising policies should be," Earnest said. He said that the board would be "well aware of the priorities the president has placed on transpar-

ency." The new alliance will be led by Joe Echevarria, the former chief executive of Deloitte, the giant accounting and consulting firm. The alliance already has obtained financial and in-kind commitments of more than \$80 million from such companies as American Express, Deloitte, Discovery Networks, and Fox News parent company News Corp., the White House said. The alliance board is a who's who of the sport, corporate and entertainment world. Singer songwriter John Legend is the alliance's honorary chairman; former Miami Heat star Alonzo Mourning is a member of the board. □





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## Republican field grows with 2 more presidential bids

**STEVE PEOPLES**  
**Associated Press**

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Two political outsiders have expanded the Republican field of White House hopefuls as former technology executive Carly Fiorina announced she's running for president and retired neurosurgeon Ben Carson launched his bid as well on Monday. Fiorina is likely to be the only prominent woman to seek the party's

nomination, with Carson the only likely African-American.

Both Fiorina and Carson have the potential to help the Republican win over a more diverse group of supporters in 2016.

Both candidates begin the race as underdogs in a campaign expected to feature several seasoned politicians, among them former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush, Wisconsin Gov. Scott

Walker, along with Florida Sen. Marco Rubio and Texas Sen. Ted Cruz. Yet while those prospects have claimed much of the early attention and favor from donors, the Republican race is a wide-open contest that could ultimately feature as many as two dozen major candidates. The Republican field is already more diverse than it was four years ago. Fiorina and Carson will compete



**Ben Carson announces his candidacy for president during an official announcement in Detroit, Monday, May 4, 2015. Carson, 63, a retired neurosurgeon, begins the Republican primary as an underdog in a campaign expected to feature several seasoned politicians.**

(AP Photo/Paul Sancya)



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against Republican counterparts Rubio and Cruz, each vying to become the first Hispanic president. And most of the candidates are in their 40s and 50s.

Still, the Republican National Committee has acknowledged a pressing need to broaden the party's appeal beyond its traditional base of older, white men. President Barack Obama won re-election in 2012 with the strong support of women and ethnic minorities, who are becoming a larger portion of the American electorate.

Fiorina, 60, chose the venue of a nationally broadcast morning network news show to announce her candidacy Monday, and she also posted a video. The former chief executive of Hewlett-Packard Co., appearing on ABC's "Good Morning America," said she understands "executive decision-making." She also directly criticized Democrat Hillary Rodham Clinton, the front-runner for her party's nomination.

"I have a lot of admiration for Hillary Clinton, but she clearly is not trustworthy,"

Fiorina said, after confirming her plans to seek the presidency.

She went after Clinton by name when asked, citing what she called a lack of transparency on a number of fronts, including the deadly 2012 attack on an American embassy in Benghazi, Libya, Clinton's use of a private email server while secretary of state and foreign donations to the Clinton Foundation.

Fiorina has a resume more likely to draw support among the Republican establishment than Carson. She became a prominent figure in Republican politics in 2010, when she ran for Senate in California and lost to incumbent Sen. Barbara Boxer.

Carson got ahead of himself on Sunday, confirming his plans to run in an interview that aired on an Ohio television station.

The retired surgeon rested his longshot bid on his vision of the nation as "a place of dreams" where people can thrive when freed from an overbearing government. □



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## Accused Texas gunman well-known to FBI before attack



FBI investigators outside the Curtis Culwell Center where two gunmen opened fire Sunday night at an event where people were invited to present cartoons of the Prophet Muhammad, before they were shot and killed by police officers in Garland, Tex., May 4, 2015. One of the two gunmen was identified on Monday by a law enforcement official as a man who had previously been labeled by the FBI as a jihadist terrorism suspect. (Cooper Neill/The New York Times)

EILEEN SULLIVAN  
ERIC TUCKER  
RYAN VAN VELZER  
Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Since at least 2007, the FBI has been able to recognize the voice of Elton Simpson — one of the men suspected in the Texas shootings outside a contest featuring cartoons of the Muslim Prophet Muhammad. Agents heard the young man from Phoenix talk about fighting nonbelievers for Allah. About plans to travel to South Africa and link up with “brothers” in Somalia. About using school as a cover story for traveling overseas. Simpson was arrested in 2010, one day before authorities say he planned to leave for South Africa. But despite more than 1,500 hours of recorded conversations, the government prosecuted him on only one minor charge — lying to a federal agent. Years spent investigating Simpson for terrorism ties resulted in three years of probation. He also was ordered to pay

\$600 in fines and court fees. Then, on Sunday, two men whom authorities identified as Simpson and Nadir Soofi opened fire in a Dallas suburb on a security officer stationed outside the contest. The deliberately provocative contest had been expected to draw outrage from the Muslim community. According to mainstream Islamic tradition, any physical depiction of the Prophet Muhammad — even a respectful one — is considered blasphemous, and drawings similar to those featured at the Texas event have sparked violence around the world. Simpson and Soofi were wearing body armor, and one shot the guard in the leg. A police officer returned fire and struck both men, killing them. The guard was treated for his injury at a hospital and released. Simpson, described as quiet and devout, had been on the radar of law enforcement because of his social media presence, but authorities did not have an

indication that he was plotting an attack, said one federal official familiar with the investigation. Less was known about Soofi, who had no criminal record, according to a search of federal court records. Simpson had worshipped at the Islamic Community Center of Phoenix for about a decade, but he quit showing up over the past two or three months, the president of the mosque told The Associated Press. A convert to Islam, Simpson first attracted the FBI's attention in 2006 because of his ties to Hassan Abu Jihaad, a former U.S. Navy sailor who had been arrested in Phoenix and was ultimately convicted of ter-

rorism-related charges, according to court records. Jihaad was accused of leaking details about his ship's movements to operators of a website in London that openly espoused violent jihad against the U.S. In the fall of that year, the FBI asked one of its informants, Dabla Deng, a Sudanese immigrant, to befriend Simpson and ask for advice about Islam. Deng had been working as an FBI informant since 2005 and was instructed to tell Simpson he was a recent convert to the religion. Over the next few years, Deng would tape his conversations with Simpson with a hidden recording device accumulating more

than 1,500 hours of conversations, according to court records. “I’m telling you, man, we can make it to the battlefield,” Simpson is recorded saying on May 29, 2009. “It’s time to roll.” In court, prosecutors presented only 17 minutes and 31 seconds during Simpson's trial, according to court documents. “I have to say that I felt like these charges were completely trumped up, that they were just trying to cover up what had been a very long and expensive investigation and they just couldn’t leave without some sort of charges,” Simpson's attorney, Kristina Sitton said. □

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## Boston Marathon bomber cries at federal death penalty trial

**DENISE LAVOIE**  
**AP Legal Affairs Writer**

**BOSTON (AP)** — For the first time in court, Boston Marathon bomber Dzhokhar Tsarnaev dropped his blank, impassive demeanor and cried as his sobbing aunt briefly took the stand Monday in his federal death penalty trial.

Tsarnaev, 21, wiped tears from his eyes quickly and fidgeted in his chair as his mother's sister sobbed uncontrollably. He had maintained an uninterested expression since his trial began in January.

The aunt, Patimat Suleimanova, cried as she sat down about 10 feet from Tsarnaev. The tears began falling before she began to testify, and she was only able to answer questions about her name, her year of birth and where she was born.

After a few minutes, Judge George O'Toole Jr. suggested that the defense call a different witness so she could compose herself. As she left the witness stand, Tsarnaev used a tissue to wipe his eyes and nose.

Five relatives — three cousins and two aunts — took

the witness stand, though the aunt who broke down did not complete her testimony. As Tsarnaev was led out of the courtroom before the lunch recess, he blew a kiss at the other aunt, who also cried during

including 17 that carry the possibility of the death penalty. He moved to the U.S. in 2002 and committed the bombings, which killed three people and wounded 260 others, when he was 19.



**This undated photo presented as evidence during the penalty phase in the trial of Dzhokhar Tsarnaev in Boston, brothers Dzhokhar, left, and Tamerlan Tsarnaev sit together at an unknown location. Dzhokhar Tsarnaev was convicted of the Boston Marathon bombings that killed three and injured more than 260 spectators in April 2013. (AP Photo/Federal PDO)**

her testimony. The relatives all acknowledged they had not seen Tsarnaev since he was 8, when he moved to the U.S. with his family.

Tsarnaev was convicted last month of 30 federal charges in the bombings,

Prosecutors say Tsarnaev and his radicalized older brother, Tamerlan, were equal partners in the bombing, and they have urged a jury to sentence Tsarnaev to death.

Tsarnaev's lawyers say Tamerlan, 26, was the mas-

termind of the attack and lured his brother into his plan. Tamerlan died days after the bombings following a shootout with police. A cousin testified Monday that Dzhokhar was a kind and warm child, so gentle that he once cried while watching "The Lion King."

"I think that his kindness made everybody around him kind," Raisat Suleimanova said through a Russian translator.

Assistant U.S. Attorney William Weinreb pounced, asking her if she believes a deadly attack on innocent civilians can be considered kind. Tsarnaev's lawyer objected, and Suleimanova was not allowed to answer the question.

Shakhruzat Suleimanova, a sister of Dzhokhar's mother, Zubeidat, testified that Dzhokhar, Tamerlan and their two sisters were well-behaved as children.

"They were so good. They wouldn't hurt a fly," she said. Suleimanova said the family was crushed when Zubeidat moved to the U.S. with her husband and children. Five or six years later, when Zubeidat returned to Russia for a visit, the family was shocked to see her sis-

ter — always a fashionable dresser — cloaked in black. Tsarnaev's lawyers have argued that Dzhokhar was influenced by his brother and his mother, who had become radicalized in the years before the bombings. "We were all shocked. We were all in pain. We were very scared," she said. "We had never had people like that in our family. We prayed, we fasted, but no people like that."

Rosa Booth, a high school friend of Tsarnaev's, said she met him in a math class at Cambridge Rindge and Latin in 2011, and spent time with him and other friends.

"He had a sweetness about him, maybe a little shy," she said.

She said Tsarnaev, whom she described as "goofy," did not talk about politics or religion.

Prosecutors urged the judge last week to press Tsarnaev's lawyers to make sure his relatives testify soon because 16 FBI agents have been assigned to guard and protect them while they are in the U.S. The family members arrived in Boston on April 23. □

## Police: 3 killed Canadian tourist after Kentucky Derby

**BRUCE SCHREINER**  
**CLAIRE GALOFARO**  
**Associated Press**

**LOUISVILLE, Kentucky (AP)** — A Canadian tourist in town for the Kentucky Derby was shot to death while fighting off three people who robbed him at random during a crime spree amid the festivities of the famed horse race, police said Monday.

Three people have been arrested in the killing late Saturday, and police said the trio was responsible for a string of armed robber-

ies.

The victim and a friend were walking back to their Louisville hotel, hours after the Derby, when the suspects picked them out to rob, said Louisville Metro Police Lt. Todd Kessinger. The area has several hotels not far from the Churchill Downs racetrack. The robbery appeared to be random, and the tourist was shot during a struggle with the attackers, Kessinger said.

Louisville authorities had not yet identified the vic-

tim. Police said he was from Toronto.

Police said they arrested a man, his sister and his sister's boyfriend on Sunday. Tyrone Thomas Jr., 19 is accused of firing the fatal shots, according to police records. His girlfriend, Fatima Abu-Diab, 20, allegedly drove the getaway car. Her brother, Fahed Abu-Diab, was also involved, police said.

Each was charged with murder and a dozen counts of armed robbery. Police believe the three

committed a string of armed robberies Friday and Saturday around hotels and apartment complexes, coinciding with the 141st running of the Kentucky Derby. Churchill Downs officials said 170,513 people crammed into the historic track, surpassing the previous attendance record of 165,307 set in 2012.

Police followed up on leads from witnesses to make the arrests, Kessinger said.

Court records show Thomas, the alleged gunman,

was arrested earlier this year on drug charges. On April 1, a police officer who stopped him in Louisville wrote in a police report that he could smell marijuana wafting from the car. Thomas allowed the officer to search his Chevrolet, where he found three Xanax pills, marijuana and a loaded Smith & Wesson pistol. Those charges remain pending.

Fatima Abu-Diab and Fahed Abu-Diab were also charged Saturday with drug offenses. □



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## APNewsBreak: Marine general chosen Joint Chiefs chairman



Gen. Joseph F. Dunford, Jr. testifies on Capitol Hill in Washington. President Barack Obama will nominate Dunford as next Joint Chiefs of Staff chairman.

(AP Photo/Carolyn Kaster)

**LOLITA C. BALDOR**  
**Associated Press**

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — President Barack Obama will nominate Marine Gen. Joseph Dunford Jr. as the next chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, choosing a widely respected, combat-hardened commander who led the Afghanistan war coalition during a key transitional period during 2013-2014, U.S. officials said Monday.

The move cuts short Dunford's service as the commandant of the U.S. Marine Corps, a job he began last October.

But the rapid promotion is one of several that have marked Dunford's fast-tracked military career, which saw him leap from a one-star general to four stars in about three years.

Officials also said Obama is also tapping Gen. Paul J. Selva, a top Air Force officer and pilot, to serve as vice chairman. Selva, who piloted transport and refueling aircraft, is currently the head of U.S. Transportation Command at Scott Air Force Base in Illinois.

Obama plans to make

the announcement at the White House Tuesday, said officials who spoke on condition of anonymity because they weren't authorized to speak publicly ahead of the announcement.

Dunford began his career as an infantry officer and has commanded at all levels. He served nearly two years in Iraq, including as head of the Marines' 5th Regimental Combat Team during the 2003 invasion, where he earned the nickname "Fighting Joe."

Dunford is well-connected internationally, often meeting with NATO and other coalition leaders. His selection signals that even as the U.S. puts more focus on Asia and looks ahead to high-tech cyber and space threats, the administration still believes a strong ground force commander is needed to work through the ongoing conflicts in Iraq, Afghanistan, Syria and across the Middle East and Africa.

He has been a leading contender for the chairman's job for months, and

his time in the commandant's post was critical. Generally, to be consid-

ered for the chairman's job an officer must serve as the head of one of the Pen-

tagon's combatant commands or as chief of one of the military services. □

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#### Pappardelle Lobster Bolognese

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## Jean-Marie Le Pen suspended from French far-right party



Jean-Marie le Pen, former head of far-right party National Front, leaves the party headquarters in Nanterre, outside Paris, France, Monday, May 4, 2015. Le Pen was suspended Monday from the National Front party he built into a political force over four decades after a series of controversial remarks about Jews and Nazis put him on the fast track to disgrace.

(AP Photo/Michel Euler)

**ELAINE GANLEY**

**Associated**

**Press**

**PARIS (AP)** — French far-right leader Jean-Marie Le Pen was suspended Monday from the National Front party he built into a political force over four decades after a series of controversial remarks about Jews and Nazis put him on the fast track to disgrace. The party's executive bureau met Monday and decided to suspend Le Pen's membership in the party he co-founded, pending a party-wide vote on abolishing the position of honorary president for life. In a statement, the party said a majority of its leadership supports doing away with that title, held by 86-year-old Le Pen since 2010. The move will be put to a vote of all party members within three months, the statement said.

Le Pen was censured after he had reiterated that Nazi gas chambers were a "detail" of World War II, for which he had already been convicted in court, and had praised Philippe Petain, the head of the collaborating Vichy government. Monday's suspension doesn't affect Le Pen's European Parliament seat, according to party spokesman Alain Vizier. Le Pen has been a thorn in the side of National Front leaders practically since he turned over the presidency to his ambitious daughter, Marine Le Pen, in 2011. She has campaigned to transform the anti-immigration party from political pariah to a voter-friendly alternative with her eye on 2017 presidential elections — while keeping a steady focus on traditional party themes such as immigration and security, and railing at what she claims is the "Islamization" of France.

Before the decision, the party's broader political bureau said it "disapproves the comments made and reiterated by Jean-Marie Le Pen," and affirmed its confidence in his daughter, to ensure that "nothing can divert (the party) from its goal of gaining power in the service of France and the French."

Jean-Marie Le Pen, sharp-tongued as ever as he left a party meeting Monday, said he had been "repudiated" and wouldn't attend the later meeting of the executive bureau on which he sits.

"The founding president of the National Front considers it undignified to appear," he told iTele TV. □

## Greece to lobby EU, ECB for swift loan payout

**ELENA BECATOROS**

**RAF CASERT**

**Associated Press**

**ATHENS, Greece (AP)** — Greece's cash-strapped government said Monday it was seeking the swift release of delayed bailout money to keep up with its debt payments, following weekend progress in negotiations with creditors.

The new left-wing government is struggling to deliver economic reforms and budget measures demanded by creditors to unlock the remaining 7.2 billion euros (\$7.7 billion) in its bailout fund.

Deputy Prime Minister Giannis Dragasakis was to meet in Frankfurt on Tues-

day with European Central Bank President Mario Draghi, while Finance Minister Yanis Varoufakis was to meet in Brussels with Economic Affairs Commissioner Pierre Moscovici, officials said.

Without the money, Greece faces the possibility of going bankrupt in the coming weeks, putting up controls on the free flow of capital or seeking an exit from the euro currency used by 19 European Union nations. Its next big repayment is 750 million euros due to the International Monetary Fund on May 12.

"At this moment, the government is discussing, it is negotiating, and there has

been significant progress at these negotiations," Greek government spokesman Gabriel Sakellaris said. "The government is awaiting and expecting the release of funds, and for this liquidity to be made available not at the end of May but as soon as possible."

A eurozone official said finance ministers from the eurozone would take stock of the situation at their regular meeting Monday and possibly "go beyond that if" talks in Brussels are fruitful this week. The official, who did not want to be identified because the talks were ongoing, said the negotiations were finally "in full swing."

Officials did not want to be pinned down on where advances have been made but Athens has previously noted progress on tax reform, privatization and changes to the country's bureaucracy.

Greek Labor Minister Panos Skourletis told private Mega television the IMF was pressing Athens to phase out state support for several pension funds, maintain a low minimum wage and slash various pension payments.

"The choice is for the country to repay its obligations and to reach an agreement. That is our choice, our choice hasn't changed," he said. □



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## Israeli FM says he won't join Netanyahu's new government

JODI RUDOREN

© 2015 New York Times

**JERUSALEM** - Avigdor Lieberman, Israel's foreign minister, announced Monday that he would not join Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's next government, saying that the coalition being formed was "opportunistic" and not "nationalist."

The decision by Lieberman, a polarizing ultra-nationalist whose calls for beheading terrorists and transferring Arab citizens to Palestinian territory have prompted outrage, is unlikely to block Netanyahu from building a coalition before the deadline Wednesday. But it would leave the prime minister with a razor-thin majority in Parliament, 61 of 120 seats, unless he reaches beyond the conservative and religious parties to form a unity government with the center-left Zionist Union.

Lieberman, whose Yis-

rael Beiteinu party won six seats in the March 17 election, said, "our dilemma was principles and not chairs," referring to ministerial positions, according to Haaretz, a leading Israeli daily newspaper. "I am happy that we chose principles."

He complained that the new government would not significantly expand Jewish settlements in the occupied West Bank and East Jerusalem, pass the so-called nationality bill emphasizing Israel's Jewish character or commit to uprooting the Islamist movement Hamas from the Gaza Strip. He also accused Netanyahu of preparing to join forces with the Zionist Union, which won 24 seats in the election.

"We came to the clear and unequivocal conclusion that it is not right from our point of view to join the present coalition," Lieberman was quoted by



Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, center, sits during a ceremony at Mount Herzl military cemetery in Jerusalem. (Ammar Awad/Pool photo via AP)

Haaretz as saying. "We are talking about a coalition that does not reflect the national camp, and certainly not our feeling,

to put it mildly. And therefore I have decided to resign from my role as foreign minister."

Isaac Herzog of the Zionist

Union, Netanyahu's chief challenger in the election, reiterated Monday that he planned to lead "a strong and fighting opposition." □

## Airstrikes hit Yemen airports as Saudis ponder cease-fire

AHMED AL-HAJ

Associated Press

**SANAA, Yemen (AP)** — Heavy Saudi-led airstrikes targeted several airports Monday across Yemen even as the kingdom's foreign minister said officials were considering a cease-fire to allow aid into the Arab world's poorest country, while Senegal announced it would be contributing troops to back the Saudi-led coalition.

In the southern city of Aden, more than 150 airstrikes hit the city's airport, witnesses and security officials said. Shiite rebels, known as Houthis, and their allies are locked in fierce fighting there against forces loyal

to exiled President Abed Rabbo Mansour Hadi.

Monday's airstrikes also hit airports in the city of Hodeida and the capital, Sanaa, witnesses and officials said. They said other airstrikes targeted Yemen's eastern province of Marib and the Houthi stronghold of Saada, while clashes in Aden left buildings ablaze and the Saudi-led coalition airdropped weapons to tribes allied with Hadi's government in Marib.

The officials spoke on condition of anonymity as they weren't authorized to talk to journalists. Witnesses spoke on condition of anonymity over fear of reprisals. □

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## Nepal asks foreign rescuers to leave as hopes fade

GARDINER HARRIS

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**KATHMANDU, Nepal** - The government of Nepal is asking foreign search-and-rescue teams to leave now that the likelihood of finding survivors buried by last month's earthquake has largely passed, and a top Nepali tourism official said Monday that no more climbers were likely to ascend Mount Everest this season.

"We have already asked them to go home," Laxmi Prasad Dhakal, a Home Ministry spokesman, said Monday of the foreign rescue teams, adding that roughly half the 4,000 rescuers had already left. "I think all the rescuers will go to their respective countries by Friday."

Some of the rescuers, however, said they had no intention of leaving immediately.

The leader of a large Spanish team, who spoke on the condition of anonymity because he had not been authorized by his embassy to speak publicly, said Nepal's government would soon divide Kathmandu, the capital, into sectors so that various teams would have responsibility for specific parts of the city. In the early days of the rescue effort, teams often ended up searching the same sites because of a lack of coordination.

Asked whom his team could still rescue, the leader responded: "Whoever is still alive. We don't yet know if anyone is still in there."



Nepalese soldiers take pictures as US Air Force Bell Boeing V-22 Osprey aircrafts arrive at the Tribhuvan International airport in Kathmandu, Nepal. (AP Photo/Niranjan Shrestha)

"We have the technology for surveying under the rubble; we have dogs that sniff people out," the team

leader said. "And we have other kinds of techniques." There seems almost no chance that anyone alive is still trapped amid the rubble from the quake, which struck just before noon April 25. On Sunday, though, three survivors were found in the Sindhupalchok district, an especially hard-hit and largely rural area north of Kathmandu. The official death toll now exceeds 7,300.

Dr. Ian Norton, head of the World Health Organization's program of foreign medical teams, praised the government's announcement, which he said would free up airport facilities and other resources.

"More is not better at this point," Norton said. "If you're not contributing, you need to make way for those who are."

Norton said that the thousands of rescuers, who often work as firefighters in their home countries, had saved a total of 16 people in the aftermath of the quake, and that about 50 foreign medical teams comprising nearly 10,000 people had saved hundreds of lives. After the Haiti

earthquake in 2010, nearly 2,000 rescuers saved 13 people, but nearly 30,000 Haitians died because of a lack of proper medical care, Norton said.

"I'm not saying rescue teams are bad, but there needs to be a balance," Norton said. "This announcement by the Nepali government is completely appropriate."

Dhakal explained that many of the rescue teams had refused to take part in the task of recovering dead bodies from the still-towering piles of rubble in some parts of Kathmandu, "so their relevance is now over."

Minendra Rijal, minister for information and communication, said, "We do not need ones who are not needed for us, but we will keep those who are essential." Also Monday, a group of experienced Sherpas told the government that the Sherpa community had neither the time nor the inclination to do the necessary repairs before bad weather, which usually arrives in the third week of May, made climbing impossible. □



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## South Korea urges North Korea to free university student

**HYUNG-JIN KIM**  
**Associated Press**  
**SEOUL, South Korea (AP)**

— South Korea on Monday urged North Korea to quickly free a South Korean student of New York University detained in the North for illegally entering the country.

Pyongyang's state media said Saturday it arrested Won Moon Joo on April 22 when he illegally entered North Korea by crossing the Amnok River from the Chinese border town of Dandong. Seoul's Unification Ministry said Monday that Joo is a South Korean national and it's "very regrettable" for North Korea to be detaining him without providing any prior explanation to the South Korean government and his family. Spokesman Lim Byeong Cheol told reporters that South Korea strongly demands that North Korea release Joo immediately. A spokesman for New York University, John Beckman, confirmed that Joo was a junior at NYU's Stern School of Business, but that he was not taking classes this semester and that the university was unaware of his travels. He said the university was in touch with the U.S. State Department and the South Korean Embassy. It's not known why Joo tried to enter North Korea. The country has occasionally arrested South Koreans, Americans and other foreigners for what it called alleged espionage and other unspecified hostile acts. In the past, authorities in Pyongyang staged news conferences involving those detained foreigners, during which they acknowledged their wrongdoing and made statements that they recanted after being released. □

## Italian ships rescue nearly 6,800 migrants at sea

**FRANCES D'EMILIO**  
**Associated Press**

**ROME (AP)** — Italian rescue ships brought migrants by the thousands to the country's southern ports, including a baby born aboard a navy vessel, as crowded shelters in Sicily and on the mainland struggled Monday to find room for them. Some politicians based in northern Italy, meanwhile, vowed that their regions wouldn't take in any of the Mediterranean Sea migrants.

In a three-day period ending Sunday, 6,771 survivors were rescued in the seas north of Libya from overcrowded rubber dinghies and unseaworthy fishing boats sent out by smuggling rings, the Coast Guard reported Monday. Ten bodies were found Sunday on boats or in the sea. Calm seas and mild temperatures fueled the spike in human trafficking — just like it did last month when nearly 6,000 migrants were rescued during a few days of good weather. Italy has not yet released the total number of migrant arrivals in April, but the relentless stream of migrants this year

is on track to surpass the 170,000 rescued at sea by Italy in 2014.

The navy said a woman, in labor when rescued Sunday, gave birth to a girl aboard one of its patrol

vessels saving migrants on Sunday, also recovered two corpses, the Navy said. The surge of arrivals set Italian port mayors and charity organizations scrambling to find beds for the migrants.



Members of an Italian Navy unit, on the dinghy at right, rescue migrants in the Mediterranean Sea, Sunday, May 3, 2015. In a three-day period ending Sunday, 6,771 survivors were rescued at sea north of Libya from overcrowded rubber dinghies and unseaworthy fishing boats used by smugglers.

(Italian Navy via AP)

ships. Mother and daughter were fine and the patrol boat, carrying 654 migrants who were saved in four different rescue operations, headed to port.

Other rescuers had grim tasks. An Italian tugboat, among several commer-

cial vessels saving migrants on Sunday, also recovered two corpses, the Navy said. The surge of arrivals set Italian port mayors and charity organizations scrambling to find beds for the migrants.

cially. In Reggio Calabria, where 780 migrants disembarked in the "toe" of the Italian peninsula, priority was being given to keeping migrant families together, many of them in a gym, and 14 migrant babies were being given medical checkups at local hospitals. Around 540 other Reggio Calabria migrants were being taken to the Tuscany or Emilia Romagna regions in the north.

Interior Minister Angelino Alfano visited the Italian island of Sicily on Monday, conferring with local authorities wrestling with how to shelter the growing number of migrants.

The Milan-based governor of Lombardy, meanwhile, vowed not to take in any more migrants.

"In a few days I will be in Rome.

And I'll repeat to the interior minister that Lombardy has already done its part," Gov. Roberto Maroni was quoted by the Italian news agency ANSA as saying. "If there is any funding available, it should be spent on our citizens and not for clandestine" migrants. □

## Thailand to open human trafficking inquiry

**THOMAS FULLER**  
**© 2015 New York Times**

**BANGKOK** - The Thai authorities said Monday that they were investigating the complicity of local officials and police officers in a human trafficking network along the border with Malaysia where a mass grave has been unearthed. The head of the national police, Gen. Somyot Poompanmoung, said that three local officials and one man from Myanmar had been arrested and that investigations would be opened into

the border guard force, which has a base near the site of the mass grave discovered on Friday. As of Monday, 26 bodies had been exhumed.

"If there is anyone involved with this case, we will arrest them all - no exception," Somyot said. "This problem has seriously damaged the country."

A Thai state-owned radio station reported Monday that 13 police officers had been transferred and were under investigation for their involvement in a human

trafficking ring, saying it was related to the continuing case.

Thailand is under pressure from the United States and the European Union to stop what has for several years been a thriving business of human smuggling, trafficking and slavery both on land and in its fishing fleets. Bangladeshis and members of the Rohingya ethnic group, a Muslim minority in Myanmar that for the most part is denied citizenship, have taken to the sea in great numbers in recent

years seeking jobs in Muslim-majority Malaysia.

Chris Lewa, coordinator of the Arakan Project, a human rights group that tracks migration and human trafficking in the Andaman Sea, calculates that 57,000 people have embarked on the often-perilous boat journeys since October.

The U.S. government last year downgraded Thailand and Malaysia to the lowest rank in its annual assessment of how countries handle human trafficking. □





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## Puerto Rico governor signs order to legalize medical pot

**DANICA COTO**  
**Associated Press**

**SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP)**

— Puerto Rico's governor on Sunday signed an executive order to authorize the use of medical marijuana in the U.S. territory in an unexpected move following a lengthy public debate. Gov. Alejandro Garcia Padilla said the island's health secretary has three months to issue a report detailing how the executive order will be implemented, the impact it will have and

what future steps could be taken. The order went into immediate effect.

"We're taking a significant step in the area of health that is fundamental to our development and quality of life," Garcia said in a statement. "I am sure that many patients will receive appropriate treatment that will offer them new hope." The order directs the health department to authorize the use of some or all controlled substances or derivatives of the cannabis

plant for medical use. Garcia said the government also will soon outline the specific authorized uses of marijuana and its derivatives for medical purposes. He noted that medical marijuana is used in the U.S. mainland and elsewhere to treat pain associated with migraines and illnesses including epilepsy, multiple sclerosis and AIDS. Medical marijuana is already legal in 23 U.S. states, and a group of U.S. legislators is seeking to remove

federal prohibitions on it. Elsewhere in the Caribbean, Jamaica recently passed a law that partially decriminalized small amounts of pot and paved the way for a lawful medical marijuana sector. Jaime Perello, president of Puerto Rico's House of Representatives, said he supported Garcia's order. "It's a step in the right direction," he said. "One of the benefits that patients say they receive the most is pain relief."

Opposition legislator Jennifer Gonzalez said Garcia's actions leave the law of controlled substances in what she called a "judicial limbo." Back in 2013, Puerto Rico legislators debated a bill that would allow people to use marijuana for medicinal purposes, but a final vote was never taken. Amado Martinez, an activist who supports legalizing marijuana for all uses, said in a phone interview that he was very surprised by the governor's actions. □

## Anti-Cuban embargo movement picks up steam in US

**HAVANA (AP)** — Big businesses and politicians from both sides of the ideological spectrum are putting their muscle into new Washington lobbying efforts to end the U.S. embargo on Cuba as the two countries press ahead to re-establish diplomatic relations. A new bi-partisan lobbying group called Engage Cuba is launching operations this month with the backing of more than a dozen Fortune 500 firms ranging from hotel companies to agricultural businesses, said James Williams, who heads the effort.

At the same time, a po-



**Javier Yanez stands on his balcony where he hung a U.S. and Cuban flag in Old Havana Cuba. Big businesses and politicians from both sides of the ideological spectrum are putting their muscle into new Washington lobbying efforts to end the U.S. embargo on Cuba.**

(AP Photo/Ramon Espinosa)

litical action committee called New Cuba PAC had planned its first fundraiser for Monday evening in the Miami home of attorney Scott Gilbert who represented former U.S. government contractor Alan Gross. Gross was held on espionage charges in Havana for five years before being released in December amid moves toward restoring U.S.-Cuba relations. Williams said Monday that Gross was speaking at the fundraiser, which New Cuba hoped would raise more than \$50,000. Efforts to end the decades-old sanctions against the

Caribbean island typically have long been the domain of left-leaning activists and think tanks. Engage Cuba, whose staff includes veteran Democratic and Republican operatives, over the near-term will focus on striking down a prohibition against American tourism to Cuba. As part of the moves both countries announced last year, President Obama loosened the requirements for official permits for Americans to fly to Cuba to engage in 12 permitted activities ranging from educational travel to musical performances. □

## Barbados struggling to clear seaweed piles from beaches

**CAROL WILLIAMS**  
**Associated Press**

**BRIDGETOWN, Barbados**

**(AP)** — Barbados is struggling to deal with large amounts of foul-smelling, brown seaweed piling up on beaches, officials on the tourism-dependent Caribbean island said Monday. Sargassum seaweed washes up every year along many coastlines in the region. But some officials in Barbados say this is the

largest amount they have ever seen.

The island organized a national cleanup effort over the weekend to help clear the seaweed that is affecting some two dozen beaches. "This year, the volume has increased to such an extent that it is challenging for all of the agencies combined to deal with it. We all need more resources," said Ryan Als, technical officer responsible for beaches

and park management. Barbados Hotel and Tourism Association CEO Sue Springer described this year's seaweed pileup as "exceptionally bad." She said bookings have not dropped so far, but some beach-loving tourists are unhappy. However, Janet Harper, a retiree from the English city of Sheffield, said she wasn't letting her two-week vacation be ruined by the mats of seaweed

and the buzzing flies they attract. "They've done a good job trying to get rid of it, but it's just one of those things," Harper said. Fishermen in Barbados say the thickness of the floating sargassum clumps has led to diminished catches and a recent drop in earnings, despite the fact that it serves as floating habitats for various marine creatures. "This is impacting on the livelihood of the fish-

erfolk," said Vernel Nicholls, head of a national union of fishermen. Although many perceive it as a nuisance, scientists say washed-up seaweed is an important part of the coastal ecosystem and helps stabilize beaches. The drifting seaweed comes from the Sargasso Sea, a sprawling body of warm water in the Atlantic known for its thick mats of brownish algae. □





## Aruba Hosts Eventful Weekend Honoring the Dutch Royal Family!

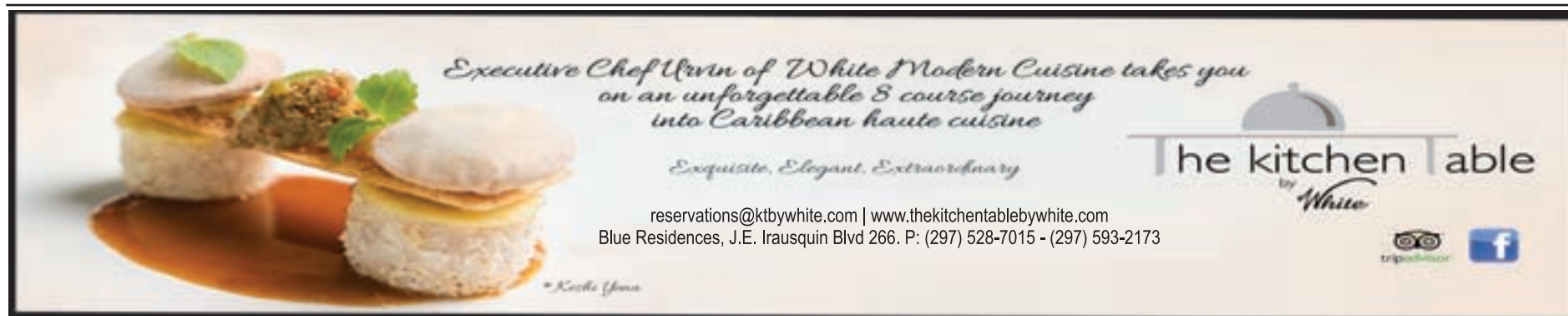


**ORANJESTAD** - In case you were wondering what was happening downtown over the weekend, the entire population of Aruba came out to be a part of the arrival of the King and Queen of the Netherlands, who proudly visited our island to celebrate 200 years of the Kingdom of the Netherlands and to commemorate 350 years of the Royal Dutch Marine Corps! This event was celebrated with demonstrations by the Dutch Marine Corps where kids and adults could participate, a delicious seafood court, many stands with local handcrafts for sale, visits and tours

on the war ships and sailboats that participated in the first "Sail Aruba" event, many movies shown in open air and for free and many stands with local handcrafts for sale. The highlight of the day was the parade of ships passing by. The sail ship Picton Castle looked like a real pirate ship, and even the US Coast guard passed by to salute the King of the Netherlands! People are still talking about how elegant Queen Maxima looked next to King Willem-Alexander and we are looking forward to the next Sail Aruba which will be even bigger and better! □







## Chef Urvin Creates Another Festival of Flavors Menu!



**PALM BEACH** - Chef Urvin Croes, born and raised in Aruba, graduated from Dutch culinary school and went on to gain experience in Michelin star restaurants in Europe. Coming back to Aruba, Chef Urvin had a dream to open Aruba's first fine dining, modern gourmet cuisine restaurant. With the opening of White Modern Cuisine in 2012, that dream came true, and White Modern Cuisine is now recognized as one of Aruba's best fine dining establishments, having been named Aruba's #1 modern cuisine restaurant and winner of numerous other culinary awards. The local and international acceptance and enthusiasm for White Modern Cuisine gave Chef Urvin the confidence and inspiration to work towards his next vision.

He talks with passion about the inspiration he found in the typical Aruban and Caribbean dishes he grew up with and how he envisioned bringing these typical tastes to a level of haute cuisine. So when he was approached by Blue Residences, right across from Eagle Beach, in the summer of 2014, he did not hesitate, opening the now most talked about gourmet restaurant, The Kitchen Table by White.

At The Kitchen Table by

White, Chef Urvin is revolutionizing the way vacationers and islanders regard Aruban and Caribbean cuisine. Using a monthly changing, fixed menu concept for the 16 seat restaurant, guests are surprised by elegant and exquisite dishes, with the option to be perfectly paired with a wide-ranging selection of fine wine.

Chef Urvin's most recent temptations includes an amuse-bouches that give homage to spring; a trio of scrumptious morsels where fresh carrots, locally grown tomatoes and crab each have a starring role and start you off on a magnificent culinary journey.

Hungry for Lion fish or ready to try this delicious fish for the first time? Another highlight on this month's menu is the Lion Fish Chowder, served with a Bavarois of celery. Restaurants that serve Lion fish support vital



conservation efforts; Lion fish is a responsible and sustainable choice in seafood.

Back for the third month in a row is the wildly popular Keshi Yena, a very traditional Aruban dish, prepared as only Chef Urvin knows how: surprising, delectable, remarkable. New on the menu are the Lamb Roti, inspired by Indian in-



fluences in the Caribbean, made with The Kitchen Table's own Madras curry, and the Papaya Stoba, a papaya stew with veal. The Papaya Stoba recipe is based on the recipe of the chef's grandmother and in true Chef Urvin's style would not be out-of-place in a Michelin star restaurant. This dining experience is topped off with a Sunchi Surprise, a Meringue and Key Lime inspired dessert, The Kitchen Table way. For a truly decadent grand finale, Chef Urvin concocted a Chocolate cake served with Salty Caramel and Sweet Potato. He describes in mouthwatering detail of his inspiration in Peru where he was introduced to the delicacies of sweet potato lollipops dipped in chocolate and caramel.

An evening at The Kitchen Table by White is pure indulgence for all your senses. Chef Urvin and his staff prepare the meal before your eyes, and the restaurant's walls are an ever changing art gallery. Here they showcase a myriad of talented Caribbean artists, which you can enjoy if

you can take your eyes off the art on your plate long enough.

Open now for less than a year, the restaurant was recently named the #1 Caribbean restaurant on Aruba by USA Today. So, if you are a food connoisseur and appreciate the art of dining or are looking for a Caribbean culinary adventure that is on par with a Michelin star experience, The Kitchen Table is the place for you. The many glowing reviews on TripAdvisor speak for themselves. The concept of The Kitchen Table is based on one seating, fixed menu per night. All guests are requested to join at 7 PM for a sunset cocktail on the restaurant's deck. Seating at The Kitchen Table by White is limited, with only 14 reservations accepted nightly. Make your reservations early, online via [reservations@ktbywhite.com](mailto:reservations@ktbywhite.com), by phone 528-7015 or through the concierge at your resort. For reservations at White Modern Cuisine please call 586-1190. Truly, for food connoisseurs, these restaurants are a must-do while on Aruba. □







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## Barney's Bar & Restaurant: "Food And Fun For Everyone!"

**PALM BEACH** - Opened for just a little over 3 years, Barney's Bar & Restaurant located in Palm Beach has become one of the favorites of both locals and tourist in Aruba. Owners Eline and Ron run the front of the house while Chef Jan makes sure all meals are served fresh and timely. Barney's is a family friendly restaurant offering a menu which is varied and excellent prices which won't break the bank.

The kitchen is open from 5pm till 11pm Monday through Saturday. The bar is open till midnight and offers karaoke on Friday nights where you will often hear Ron, Eline & Chef singing for your entertainment along with tourists and locals!

Besides offering a daily special along with 3 special soups of the week, they have several Special Nights and some are ALL YOU CAN EAT!

Monday it's ALL YOU CAN EAT Fajitas for \$19.50, which is a choice of chicken, beef or grouper served with all the toppings. Choose your



first choice and then feel free to order more of the same meat/fish choice or choose to try something different.

Tuesday is Schnitzel night offering several choices of toppings such as the Jager Schnitzel which is topped with a Jager cream sauce, sautéed mushrooms, onions and bell peppers, for \$17.50.

Wednesday night is Grouper night with a variety of toppings of your choice such as the Italian Grouper topped with tomato, mozzarella and a green pesto for \$19.50.

Thursday night is Chef's

award winning ALL YOU CAN EAT Ribs! You start off with 2 racks of ribs with your choice of BBQ sauce, regular BBQ, devils hot, or honey smoked, and includes a salad, cole slaw and french fries for \$19.50! Friday night is ALL YOU CAN EAT Sliders night, starting you off with a cheeseburger, grouper, steak, fried chicken and chorizo comes with cole slaw and french fries and once you finish the first 5 sliders feel free to re order your favorites for only \$19.50!

Saturday night is ALL YOU CAN EAT Steak night which includes a salad, cole slaw and french fries for only \$21.50.

Some of my favorites on their regular menu are starting off my meal with the Firecrackers Shrimp; shrimp deep fried tossed around in a light spicy homemade sauce or the Smokey's sauce; smoked trout filet with lemon garlic butter out of the oven or Barney's crab cakes! Then I will proceed to the Parmesan Grouper, a



grouper filet topped with a mix of parmesan cheese, mustard, mayonnaise and egg served with stir fried veggie's and a side of your choice or I will build my own burger which includes a choice of ground beef, chicken or vegetarian patty and I load up on the variety of toppings they offer to choose from. Another favorite on the main course menu is Barney & Fred Sword Fight: a skewer with pieces of tenderloin grilled to perfection just how I like it and a skewer with grilled shrimp served with stir fried veggies and a side of my choice.

As I reported at the beginning, Barney's has been opened just a little over 3 years and has become extremely popular. Walk-ins are welcomed if seats are available but it really is necessary now a days to make a reservation to insure you have a table. You can contact your concierge desk at your hotel/time share or call them directly at 586-5420. Feel free to check them out on Facebook at Barneys Restaurant to see what's going on.

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## Madrid Open



Serena Williams from U.S. celebrates after defeating Sloane Stephens from U.S. after their Madrid Open tennis tournament in Madrid, Spain, Monday, May 4, 2015.

Associated Press

## Williams beats Stephens, advances to third round

HAROLD HECKLE  
Associated Press

**MADRID (AP)** — Serena Williams needed just 58 minutes to beat fellow American Sloane Stephens 6-4, 6-0 Monday and reach the third round of the Madrid Open. The top-ranked Williams broke Stephens four times and saved both break points she faced to secure her 25th straight win. She will next face the winner between Victoria Azarenka and Ajla Tomljanovic. "She's such a tough player," Williams said of Stephens.

Continued on page 20

# Chasing Rory



## McIlroy reaffirms his place as No.1

Rory McIlroy follows his shot off the fourth tee of TPC Harding Park during round-robin play against Brandt Snedeker at the Match Play Championship golf tournament Thursday, April 30, 2015, in San Francisco. Associated Press Page 18

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# Rory McIlroy: Holding the top ranking, wearing the crown

**DOUG FERGUSON**

**AP Golf Writer**

**SAN FRANCISCO (AP)** —

Unless he changed his routine, Rory McIlroy started celebrating his 26th birthday on Monday by going to the website of the Official World Golf Ranking to see where he stood. It was neither a gift nor a surprise. Everyone knows he is No. 1. McIlroy only wants to know by how much.

"Every Monday morning, I go on the website and look at what my lead is — hopefully, lead — and tomorrow morning will be the same," he said.

This was shortly after he beat Gary Woodland, 4 and 2, to win the Match Play Championship. And it was in response to a question about whether McIlroy felt more like the No. 1 player with the trophy at his side than before he won all seven matches at the TPC Harding Park.

"I don't need any wins or validation to feel like that," McIlroy said. It was his second win of the year. He has won two of the last three World Golf Championships he has played. He joined Tiger Woods (29) and Jack Nicklaus (17) as the only players to have won 10 times on the PGA Tour at age 25 or younger. He made it with one day to spare. And it was made all the better by the timing.

This was the first tournament since Jordan Spieth won the Masters and moved to No. 2 in the world.

"I think everyone — not just me, but everyone on tour — was inspired seeing Jordan do what he did at Augusta," McIlroy said. "This is the start of a nice little run of golf for me, and I wanted to come out and play well and increase my lead in the world rankings ... and



*In his Sunday, May 3, 2015, file photo, Rory McIlroy, of Northern Ireland, follows his shot from the sixth fairway during the finals of the Match Play Championship at TPC Harding Park in San Francisco.*

keep going. But it's always nice to have people pushing you. And I feel like he's one of the guys doing that right now."

Not since the prime years of Tiger Woods and Phil Mickelson has there been this much hope for a championship match between No. 1 and No. 2.

Spieth played as well as anyone during the round-robin portion of the tournament by going the equivalent of 15 under par over 49 holes. This being match play, all those birdies didn't matter when Lee West-

wood outplayed him on the last two holes and eliminated him on Friday.

Not to worry. There's always another week. The Players Championship starts Thursday. By then, of course, the public could be ready to crown some other young star on a tour that is loaded with such potential. Spieth said as much before the Match Play began when he was asked if he felt as though he was the player with the biggest target on his back.

"Within the first two weeks after the Masters, yes," was

his honest reply.

Spieth knows who rules golf at the moment. He might have a green jacket, but McIlroy still has the crown. He also understands the attention that comes with decimating the field at Augusta National at age 21 and following that with a 62 right when it looked as if he were running out of gas. And he has made it clear he still has a long way to go to catch McIlroy at No. 1. McIlroy made it even longer with his Match Play victory.

Spieth also wondered what

would happen if Rickie Fowler were to win the U.S. Open. That would be another player to be considered a contender for No. 1. "I have to keep doing what I've been doing," Spieth said. "Yeah, I feel that right now. I like that. I enjoy it. And I want to keep it that way. But again, I think it's hyped up a little right after the tournament. And that's cool, but I need to keep doing that in order for it to stay that way."

What this victory by McIlroy reinforced was that the real battle still to be played out is who earns the right to be his biggest rival. Among players in their 20s, McIlroy has 16 victories worldwide and four majors. Spieth has five wins and one major. Plus, it's hard to read too much into a victory in Match Play.

Woods looked out of sync early in 2004. He had gone five straight tournaments without contending — this used to constitute a slump — and had gone more than a year since his split with Butch Harmon. He was just starting to consider a swing change under Hank Haney. He won the Match Play Championship at La Costa, with only one of his six matches going the distance. It was his only PGA Tour victory that year.

There's something about leaving town with a trophy, however, and McIlroy looked confident as ever when he headed home to Florida. He had plans to go to dinner with family and friends to celebrate his birthday. But first, he would check the ranking.

"It's nice to have that healthy lead," he said. "I just want to try to keep increasing it. Obviously, I've done that today. But ultimately, it's about wins." □

**Associated Press**



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## Canada, U.S., earn 3rd straight wins at ice hockey worlds

**KAREL JANICEK**  
Associated Press

**PRAGUE (AP)** — Sidney Crosby scored again as Canada beat host Czech Republic 6-3 at the ice hockey world championship on Monday, and the United States bested defending champion Russia 4-2.

It was the third win in three games for both North American teams and Sweden equaled their record by routing Latvia 8-1. Last year's runner-up Finland blanked Norway 5-0 for its second win.

Philadelphia Flyers center Sean Couturier broke a 2-2 tie for Canada 2:20 before the end of the second period. Dallas Stars forward Tyler Seguin and Crosby both scored power-play goals in the third. The Pittsburgh Penguins star has scored a goal in each game at the worlds.

"That was definitely a good test for us," Crosby said.

"They're fast and they used the big ice well with their speed. It was a good test for us, both ways, trying to create offense and trying to play defense. The main thing is to keep improving next couple weeks here." Canada outshot the Czechs 38-25. They have scored a total of 22 goals in the first three games, most of all teams.

Vladimir Sobotka cut the lead to 5-3 before Tyler Toffoli added an empty net goal with 1:29 left.

Canada tops Group A with nine points, while the Czechs have four.

Goals from Edmonton Oilers forwards Jordan Eberle and Taylor Hall — his fourth at the tournament — looked to put Canada in control with 59 seconds left in the first period. But Martin Erat pulled one back for the Czechs just 21 seconds later and Martin tied it at 2-2 with 4:15 to go in the second.

"We can't (give up) six goals and win," Czech captain Jakub Voracek said.

"We have problems in defense but still have time to work on it. The offense is good, we create some chances."

The young U.S. team leads Group B in Ostrava with nine points, three more than Russia, and plays Belarus next on Thursday.

In a matchup of two unbeaten teams, Torey Krug used a two-man advantage in the second period to roof a wrist shot for the 2-1 go-ahead goal and Mark Arcobello made it 3-1 in the third.

Sergei Plotnikov cut it to 3-2 when the puck deflected into the goal off defenseman Seth Jones' stick with 3:49 to go, but Brock Nelson scored into an empty net with 9 seconds left.

U.S. goaltender Jack Campbell made 15 saves, including two big stops to



**Torey Krug of USA, left, shoots to score past Russia's goalkeeper Sergei Bobrovski, second from right, during the Hockey World Championships Group B match in Ostrava, Czech Republic, Monday, May 4, 2015.**

Associated Press

deny Plotnikov in the opening period.

"It's a fast game, a lot of great players," Campbell said. "It's an honor to be out here and get the win." In Group A in Prague, Boston Bruins forward Loui Eriksson scored a hat trick for Sweden and Nashville Predators forward Filip Forsberg netted a penalty shot for his fourth goal of the

tournament.

"It's always fun to score a lot of goals," Forsberg said. "We got some stuff that we can work on, both defensively and offensively ... to be ready for Canada."

Sweden faces the star-studded Canadian team on Wednesday.

Joonas Kamppainen scored twice and had an assist for Finland. □



## Madrid OPEN

continued from page 17

"I've never won a 6-0 set against her before, and I don't think I can ever do that again."

Williams remained undefeated in 2015, with her last loss coming in round-robin play at last year's WTA finals.

Earlier, Caroline Wozniacki powered past Christina McHale of the United States 7-5, 6-0 Monday to reach the third round of the Madrid Open.

The fifth-seeded Wozniacki hit five aces and committed fewer unforced errors on the red clay to beat the 22-year-old player from Teaneck, New Jersey in 1 hour, 30 minutes. Wozniacki will face Agnieszka Radwanska after the Polish player eased past Casey Dellacqua of Australia 6-2, 6-1.

In the men's competition, John Isner of the United States beat Adrian Manna-



Caroline Wozniacki from Denmark returns the ball during her Madrid Open tennis tournament match against Christina McHale from U.S. in Madrid, Spain, Monday, May 4, 2015.

Associated Press

rino of France 7-6 (2), 6-4 to reach the second round.

The 16th-seeded Isner will next play either Jeremy Chardy - another Frenchman - or Thomaz Bellucci of Brazil.

Also, Steve Johnson of the United States came from a

set down to beat Alejandro Gonzalez of Colombia 4-6, 6-3, 7-6 (4). The 25-year-old Johnson from Redondo Beach, California - one of five Americans in the men's main draw in Madrid - will now have a day to recover before facing third-seeded

Rafael Nadal of Spain in the second round.

Sam Querrey beat 19-year-old qualifier Thanasi Kokkinakis of Australia 6-4, 6-7 (6), 6-3 - hitting 11 aces in the process, while Feliciano Lopez of Spain overcame Benjamin Becker of Ger-

many 7-5, 3-6, 6-4.

The 11th-seeded Lopez, who lives in Madrid, was given a warning by the chair umpire for using foul language on court during a tense third set.

Marin Cilic of Croatia — seeded ninth — beat Jiri Vesely of the Czech Republic 7-5, 6-1 and David Goffin of Belgium rallied to defeat Ernests Gulbis of Latvia 3-6, 6-1, 7-5.

Joao Sousa of Portugal beat Jerzy Janowicz of Poland 6-4, 7-5 and Fabio Fognini of Italy defeated Santiago Giraldo of Colombia 6-2, 6-3.

In the women's tournament, 13th-seeded Lucie Safarova of the Czech Republic bested Tsvetana Pironkova of Bulgaria 6-3, 6-1, Samantha Stosur of Australia beat Kaia Kanepi of Estonia 6-3, 6-2, and 21-year-old Garbine Muguruza of Spain lost to Svetlana Juznetsova of Russia 6-3, 5-7, 7-5.

Roberta Vinci of Italy beat Alize Cornet of France 6-4, 7-5. □

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## NHL Playoffs

# Tampa Bay routs Montreal to take 2-0 series lead



Tampa Bay Lightning goalie Ben Bishop (30) keeps his eyes on the puck during first period action against the Montreal Canadiens in Game 2 NHL second round playoff hockey action, Sunday, May 3, 2015, in Montreal.

### The Associated Press

**MONTREAL (AP)** — Steven Stamkos scored his first goal of the NHL playoffs as the Tampa Bay Lightning beat the Montreal Canadiens 6-2 on Sunday to take a 2-0 lead in the Eastern Conference semifinal series.

Nikita Kucherov scored twice on power plays and Valtteri Filppula, Victor Hedman and J.T. Brown added goals. Ben Bishop made 27 saves for the Lightning. Jeff Petry and Tom Gilbert scored for Montreal. Carey Price allowed the most goals he has all season, finishing with 18 saves.

Game 3 is Wednesday at Tampa Bay.

Tampa Bay went 4 for 8 on the power play, and Montreal was 0 for 3.

Filppula and Hedman also scored with the man advantage as Tampa Bay got its first power-play goals since Game 2 of its seven-game opening series against Detroit. Montreal is 1 for 26 with the man advantage in the playoffs.

### DUCKS 3, FLAMES 0

**ANAHEIM, California (AP)** — Frederik Andersen made 30 saves in his first career postseason shutout and Matt Beleskey scored in the first period as Anaheim remained unbeaten in the NHL playoffs and opened a 2-0 lead over Calgary in

the Western Conference semifinals.

Hampus Lindholm scored his first career playoff goal with 8:45 to play for the Ducks, who have followed up their first-round sweep of Winnipeg with two solid victories over the upstart Flames.

Nate Thompson added an empty-net goal as Anaheim won six straight playoff games for the first time since 2006.

Although Calgary showed more fight after the Ducks' 6-1 win in the opener, the Ducks methodically moved halfway to their first Western Conference finals since 2007, Anaheim's only championship year.

Associated Press

# Cuban wrestlers to face USA in Times Square

**NEW YORK (AP)** — The Cuban national wrestling team will face off against the U.S. in an exhibition in New York's Times Square later this month.

Team USA tells The Associated Press that the Cubans will wrestle in New York City on May 21 for the first time

since the 2003 world championships. The dual meet has been billed "Salsa in the Square" and will feature matches in men's and women's freestyle and the Greco-Roman discipline.

This isn't the first time that New York City has hosted a key international meet

as part of a celebration for "Beat the Streets," an organization designed to support wrestling in New York schools. The U.S., Iran and Russia squared off in Grand Central Terminal as part of the successful effort to reinstate Olympic wrestling in 2013. □

Game 3 is Tuesday in Calgary.

### BLACKHAWKS 4, WILD 1

**CHICAGO (AP)** — Patrick Kane scored two goals and Corey Crawford made 30 saves as Chicago beat Minnesota to take a 2-0 lead in the Western Conference semifinals.

Patrick Sharp had a goal and an assist to help Chi-

cago improve to 5-0 at home in the playoffs. Jonathan Toews also scored in the second after a big play by Marian Hossa. Defenseman Matt Dumba scored for Minnesota, and Devan Dubnyk made 27 saves. The Wild are winless in eight postseason games at Chicago. Game 3 is Tuesday in Minnesota. □

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# Warriors' Stephen Curry voted NBA's MVP over Harden, James



Fans cheer after Golden State Warriors guard Stephen Curry (30) scored against the Memphis Grizzlies during the second half of Game 1 in a second-round NBA playoff basketball series in Oakland, Calif., Sunday, May 3, 2015.

Associated Press

**ANTONIO GONZALEZ**  
AP Basketball Writer  
OAKLAND, California (AP)

— Some called him too small. Others too fragile. Now, Stephen Curry has a new label: NBA MVP. The Golden State Warriors' point guard won the league's top individual award Monday, beating out Houston's James Harden in a race that turned out not to be that close. Curry received 100 of 130 first-place votes for a total of 1,198 points from a panel of 129 writers and broadcasters, along with the fan vote on the NBA's website. Harden had 25 first-place votes and 936 points. Cleveland's LeBron James, a four-time MVP, got five first-place votes and 552 points.

Oklahoma City Thunder's Russell Westbrook (352 points) finished fourth and New Orleans Pelicans big man Anthony Davis (203 points) was fifth. With the revitalized Warriors winning at a historic pace, Curry's case for MVP resonated around the league as loud as the nightly chants at rowdy Oracle Arena. Curry carried the top-seeded Warriors to a franchise-record 67 wins, surpassed his own record for most 3-pointers in a season and added to his growing reputation as one of the most entertaining spectacles in sports. He's the franchise's first MVP since Wilt Chamberlain in 1960, when the Warriors played in Philadelphia. Curry was set to

receive the award during an afternoon news conference Monday in Oakland. He will be presented with the hardware again during an on-court ceremony when Golden State hosts Memphis in Game 2 of the Western Conference semi-finals Tuesday night. Congratulations rolled in from players around the league at practices and on social media. None echoed louder than those from James, who called Curry the main reason for the Warriors' rapid rise to championship contender. "He's the catalyst of that whole ship," James said at the Cavaliers' morning shootaround. "And I think he's had an unbelievable season. And I think it's very well deserved, and I think it's great that another kid born in Akron, Ohio, can win an MVP, so, I liked it." Curry was born in Akron but grew up in Charlotte, North Carolina, where he started in the shadows of his father, former NBA player Dell Curry. Despite his famous

name, most major colleges didn't offer Curry a scholarship coming out of high school because they thought he was too small. Curry proved them all wrong, going from a shooting guard who dazzled at Davidson during the NCAA Tournament to a polished professional point guard who can shoot, dribble and distribute with the best of them. In a game dominated by big men and played by some of the world's greatest athletes, the 6-foot-3, 190-pound Curry controls the flow without physically overpowering defenders. But there were times when it seemed Curry's potential might not be reached. Two operations on his right ankle in his first three seasons with Golden State fueled questions about his durability. He even had to prove his worth to the team that drafted him seventh overall in 2009. Curry signed a \$44 million, four-year contract extension with the Warriors before the 2012-13 season.

Back then, the deal looked like a major risk for the Warriors considering Curry's injury history. Now? Well, Curry is clearly one of basketball's best bargains. He eclipsed his own record of 272 3-pointers set two years ago, hitting 286 from beyond the arc this season. He already owns three of the five most prolific 3-point shooting seasons in NBA history. Curry averaged 23.8 points, 7.7 assists, 4.3 rebounds and two steals this season. He shot 48.7 percent from the floor and 44.3 percent from 3-point range. Off the floor, his popularity is also soaring. Curry received more All-Star votes than any player and joined James and NBA Commissioner Adam Silver at the league's biggest marketing events during All-Star weekend in New York, where his face plastered posters in subway stations and televisions in taxi cabs. He also delivered by winning his first 3-point contest. □

## GIANTS 5, ANGELS 0

**The Associated Press**  
**SAN FRANCISCO (AP)** — Tim Lincecum pitched three-hit ball over eight innings, and San Francisco completed a three-game sweep. Lincecum (2-2) walked one and struck out four in eight scoreless innings, lowering his ERA to 2.40. Jean Machi struck out Mike Trout and Albert Pujols in a hitless ninth for San Francisco, which has won eight of 11 following a 4-10 start. Nori Aoki and Joe Panik hit consecutive first-inning home runs off Jered Weaver (0-4), who gave up five runs and 10 hits in five innings.

**CARDINALS 3, PIRATES 2**  
**ST. LOUIS (AP)** — Kolten Wong homered off Radhames Liz (1-2) in the 14th inning, giving the Cardinals extra-inning wins in three straight games for the first time since July 2006, when they twice beat Houston before the MLB All-Star



San Francisco Giants starting pitcher Tim Lincecum (55) throws to the Los Angeles Angels during the second inning of a baseball game on Sunday, May 3, 2015, in San Francisco.

Associated Press

break and then won at Dodger Stadium when play resumed.

St. Louis became the first team to sweep a three-game series with three walkoff wins since Cincinnati against the Boston Braves from June 4-7, 1925. The National League Central division leaders are a league-best 18-6, matching the club's best 24-game start since 1900. They had the same record in 1941 and 1944. Pedro Alvarez homered in the Pittsburgh 12th inning before the Cardinals tied it on a bases-loaded single by Peter Bourjos in the bottom half. Rookie Miguel Socolovich (1-0) worked a perfect 14th for his first career victory. **NATIONALS 1, METS 0** NEW YORK (AP) — Doug Fister (2-1) combined with four relievers on a five-hitter and Ryan Zimmerman blooped an RBI single in the first off Dillon Gee (0-2). Washington has won five of six following a six-game losing streak. □



# Google is starting small, thinking big with 'Project Fi'

MICHAEL LIEDTKE

**AP Technology Writer**  
MOUNTAIN VIEW, Calif.  
(AP) — Google wants the wireless services that connect mobile devices to digital content to be cheaper and more reliable.

The reason has as much to do with the pursuit of profit as with trying to make smartphones more useful. More time spent using Google's dominant search engine or watching videos on its popular YouTube site translates into more opportunities for the company to show its moneymaking ads.

Enter "Project Fi," the Internet company's recently launched attempt to usher in new ways to keep smartphones online while lowering the cost for streaming video, listening to music, getting directions and searching for information.

"Wireless connectivity has become so essential that it's kind of like our lifeblood," says Nick Fox, the Google Inc. executive overseeing Project Fi. "This gives us a playground where we can try things out."

In a break from the status quo, Project Fi will cost just \$20 for basic service and then only charge for the amount of data consumed over cellular networks that Google is leasing from T-Mobile and Sprint. Most



In this April 24, 2015 photo, Nick Fox, Vice President for Communications Products at Google, prepares a presentation on Project Fi, in Mountain View, Calif.

Associated Press

plans charge a flat rate under metered plans that limit customers to a specific amount of data.

Google's service is also promising to automatically switch customers to publicly available Wi-Fi networks to avoid incurring charges for using data on the cellular networks.

Here are some key things to know about Project Fi culled from a recent interview with Fox at Google's Mountain View, California,

headquarters.

## STARTING SMALL, THINKING BIG

Although Fox wouldn't disclose how many customers Project Fi will accept, it's clearly going to be a relatively small pool of U.S. consumers at the outset. Getting on the wireless service requires a Nexus 6 smartphone, a model made by Motorola for Google as a showcase for how it would like its services to work with its Android operating system. Nexus 6 owners also need an invitation to subscribe to Project Fi (requests for invitation can be made here: <https://fi.google.com/signup>). Google, though, is hoping Project Fi reshapes the market. If some of its technological features work well, Google will implant them into future updates of Android so they are available on the hundreds of millions of other devices running on the software, Fox said.

After spending more than two years developing Project Fi, Google is also counting on other wireless carriers copying its ideas, particularly on pricing.

"We are focused more on

Android where we can have the most influence, but to the extent that the ideas take off and go broader than Project Fi, that's great for users," Fox said.

Google ultimately just wants people to spend more of their lives online because when that happens, it brings more traffic to its search engine, YouTube and other services such as Gmail and maps.

## BILLING BY MEGABYTE

Google's pricing system seems the feature most likely to shake up the wireless market. Project Fi only charges subscribers for the precise amount of cellular data used, an approach that Google came up with after its internal studies concluded most people consume less than 2 gigabytes a month yet often pay for much higher limits. The solution: Project Fi subscribers will pay just a penny per megabyte of cellular data. That means 501 megabytes — a little over half a gigabyte — would cost just \$5.01 even if a Project Fi user had signed up for a 2 gigabyte monthly plan listed at \$20.

## SEAMLESS WI-FI

Google knows a lot about the strength of public Wi-Fi networks because it gathers the information when people connect to its services. Project Fi is relying on this intelligence to automatically switch its users from a cellular tower to a free Wi-Fi system with a signal strong enough to stream video and music, another effort to save people money.

This could mean a smartphone will shift to a Wi-Fi network downloading at 10 megabits, even if a T-Mobile or Sprint network is available at 30 megabits, Fox said, because the slower speed is still strong enough for a solid connection.

The Wi-Fi switch won't automatically occur, though, on free networks in businesses and airports that require a user to accept terms of service or perform some manual acknowledgement.

In an effort to protect passwords and personal data, Project Fi creates a private transmission channel while its subscribers are using a publicly accessible Wi-Fi system.

## BRIDGING DEVICES

Project Fi will store subscriber phone numbers in Google data centers so that they may be accessed on other devices besides smartphones. That means a Project Fi user will be able to send and receive texts, or make or receive calls, on their personal computers, tablets or even other smartphones besides their own, as long as they logged in.

## NETWORK JUMPING

Project Fi also is promising to automatically decide whether its subscribers are better off on either T-Mobile's or Sprint's cell network, no matter where they are. Google developed an identification, or SIM, card that can store 10 different network profiles to make it possible to toggle between networks run by two different carriers. □

## Grooveshark gives up the groove, shuts down pirate site

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — Visitors to the music pirate website Grooveshark.com won't be finding their favorite songs for free anymore.

Instead, they are being greeted with a message apologizing without reservation for the site failing to secure licenses from rights holders for the vast amount of music on the service.

The website has shut down completely after reaching a settlement with major record companies Universal, Sony and Warner on Thurs-

day.

Founders Josh Greenberg and Sam Tarantino admitted to creating and operating an infringing music service, and surrendered ownership of the site, mobile apps and intellectual property. They agreed to pay significant financial penalties if they fail to follow the settlement terms.

The message also directs visitors to legal alternatives including Spotify, Deezer, Google Play, Beats Music, Rhapsody and Rdio. □



## Cisco CEO Chambers to step down, Robbins is successor

**BRANDON BAILEY**

**Associated Press**

**SAN FRANCISCO (AP)** —

Veteran tech executive John Chambers plans to step down after more than 20 years as CEO of Cisco Systems Inc., a major supplier of computer networking gear that makes the Internet work.

Cisco said its board has selected longtime company executive Chuck Robbins to succeed Chambers in

July, bypassing some of Chambers' better-known lieutenants.

Chambers, who was one of Silicon Valley's longest-serving CEOs, will move to the role of Cisco's executive board chairman. During his tenure, the company grew from \$1.2 billion in annual revenue in 1995, the year he became CEO, to \$48 billion in sales last year. Despite a few missteps, such as a short-lived push

into selling consumer tech products a few years ago, the 65-year-old Chambers has been a respected corporate leader in Silicon Valley and on Wall Street. He's also been a prominent advocate for U.S. tax code changes and other policy issues that are important to the tech industry, serving on advisory panels for both Presidents Bill Clinton and George W. Bush. Chambers was an advisor to presiden-

tial candidate John McCain in 2008.

Chambers said Wednesday he will continue to spend at least half his time as board chairman, and hopes to pursue philanthropic projects. He added that he will probably support candidates and issues, but doesn't intend to enter politics himself. During a conference call with reporters, Chambers praised Robbins and said he emerged from

a 16-month selection process as the strongest candidate to lead Cisco in a new era. The 49-year-old Robbins, who has worked at Cisco for 17 years, most recently served as Cisco's senior vice president of worldwide operations. While he is well-regarded at the company, his selection came as a surprise to some outsiders who viewed Cisco president Robert Lloyd as a likely successor. □

## Wall Street gains, pushing market close to record levels



Trader Kevin Walsh, center, works on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. The stock market closed just short of a record on Monday as investors assessed some positive earnings reports.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

**STEVE ROTHWELL**

**AP Markets Writer**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — The stock market closed just short of a record on Monday as investors assessed some positive earnings reports.

Cognizant Technology Solutions, a technology consulting business, was the biggest gainer in the Stan-

dard & Poor's 500 index after it reported earnings that beat the expectations of Wall Street analysts and raised its outlook for earnings and sales for the year. Tyson Foods, the maker of Jimmy Dean sausage products, was another company whose stock gained after posting strong earnings.

Corporate earnings for the first quarter have surpassed analysts' expectations, growing slightly rather than contracting, as had been forecast. That's helping boost demand for stocks, keeping alive a bull market that is now in its seventh year.

"Earnings haven't been as

bad as people were expecting ... the picture isn't too bad," said Sean Lynch, Co-Head of Global Equity Strategy for Wells Fargo Investment Institute.

The Standard & Poor's 500 index rose 6.20 points, or 0.3 percent, to 2,114.49, within three points of its all-time high reached on April 24. The Dow Jones industrial average climbed 46.34 points, or 0.3 percent, to 18,070.40. The Nasdaq composite gained 11.54 points, or 0.2 percent, to 5,016.93.

Stocks also got a lift from the first gain in factory orders since last summer.

Orders rose in March for the first time since last July, breaking a long stretch of weakness in manufacturing. The increase of 2.1 percent followed seven monthly declines, the Commerce Department reported Monday. Also, orders in a key category that tracks business investment plans eked out a 0.1 percent rise. It was the first advance in the category since last August.

The most closely watched

piece of economic news this week will come out on Friday, when the government releases its monthly jobs report. Investors follow the survey closely because they believe it will give them insight into when the Federal Reserve may raise interest rates.

Fed policy makers have heled their benchmark interest rate close to zero since 2008. Most investors expect that they will refrain from raising rates until the second half of the year at the earliest, to allow the economy more time to strengthen. Although the economy slowed in the first three months of the year, companies have still managed to continue to increase their earnings.

Average earnings-per-share for S&P 500 companies are forecast to rise by 1.7 percent in the first quarter, according to data from S&P Capital IQ. While the pace of growth has slowed from the final quarter of 2014, it is a much better performance than analysts were expecting at the start of April. □

## Comcast's earnings rise 10%, driven by high-speed internet

**EMILY STEEL**

**© 2015 New York Times**

Comcast, the cable and entertainment conglomerate, reported a 10 percent increase in earnings in the first quarter, driven by growth in its high-speed Internet business.

Total revenue inched up 2.6 percent to \$17.9 billion during the quarter compared

with the same period last year, the company said Monday. Without counting sales tied to the 2015 Super Bowl and the 2014 Olympics - both of which were broadcast on NBC, which Comcast owns - revenue increased 7.2 percent during the period.

Net income attributable to Comcast was \$2.1 billion

for the quarter, up 10 percent from the same period last year. The results followed recent news that the company had abandoned its \$45 billion takeover of Time Warner Cable after intense regulatory scrutiny. Costs related to the deal came to \$99 million during the first quarter. That brings the total costs related to

the transaction to \$336 million since the deal was announced in February 2014. Comcast, the largest cable operator in the country, is expected to detail its plans for moving forward during a conference call with investors on Monday morning. "At Comcast, we have great products and technologies, and we were ex-

cited about bringing these capabilities to additional cities," Brian Roberts, Comcast's chief executive, said during a conference call. "The government ultimately didn't see it the same way."

The company's cable group reported a 6.3 percent increase in revenue to \$11.4 billion. □



## Ideology and Integrity



PAUL KRUGMAN  
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The 2016 campaign should be almost entirely about issues. The parties are far apart on everything from the environment to fiscal policy to health care, and history tells us that what politicians say during a campaign is a good guide to how they will govern.

Nonetheless, many in the news media will try to make the campaign about personalities and character instead. And character isn't totally irrelevant. The next president will surely encounter issues that aren't currently on anyone's agenda, so it matters how he or she is likely to react. But the character trait that will matter most isn't one the press likes to focus on. In fact, it's actively discouraged.

You see, you shouldn't care whether a candidate is someone you'd like to have a beer with. Nor should you care about politicians' sex lives, or even their spending habits unless they involve clear corruption. No, what you should really look for, in a world that keeps throwing nasty surprises at us, is intellectual integrity: the willingness to face facts even if they're at odds with one's preconceptions, the willingness to admit mistakes and change course.

And that's a virtue in very short supply.

As you might guess, I'm thinking in particular about the sphere of economics, where the nasty surprises just keep coming. If nothing that has happened these past seven years or so has shaken any of your long-held economic beliefs, either you haven't been paying attention or you haven't been honest with yourself.

Times like these call for a combination of open-mindedness - willingness to entertain different ideas - and determination to do the best you can. As Franklin Roosevelt put it in a celebrated speech, "The country demands bold, persistent experimentation. It is common sense to take a method and try it: If it fails, admit it frankly and try another. But above all, try something."

What we see instead in many public figures is, however, the behavior George Orwell described in one of his essays: "Believing things which we know to be untrue, and then, when we are finally proved wrong, impudently twisting the facts so as to show that we were right." Did I predict

runaway inflation that never arrived? Well, the government is cooking the books, and besides, I never said what I said. Just to be clear, I'm not calling for an end to ideology in politics, because that's impossible. Everyone has an ideology, a view about how the world does and should work. Indeed, the most reckless and dangerous ideologues are often those who imagine themselves ideology-free - for example, self-proclaimed centrists - and are, therefore, unaware of their own biases. What you should seek, in yourself and others, is not an absence of ideology but an open mind, willing to consider the possibility that parts of the ideology may be wrong.

The press, I'm sorry to say, tends to punish open-mindedness, because gotcha journalism is easier and safer than policy analysis. Hillary Clinton supported trade agreements in the 1990s, but now she's critical. It's a flip-flop! Or, possibly, a case of learning from experience, which is something we should praise, not deride.

So what's the state of intellectual integrity at this point in the election cycle? Pretty bad, at least on the Republican side of the field.

Jeb Bush, for example, has declared that "I'm my own man" on foreign policy, but the list of advisers circulated by his aides included the likes of Paul Wolfowitz, who predicted that Iraqis would welcome us as liberators, and shows no signs of having learned from the blood bath that actually took place. Meanwhile, as far as I can tell no important Republican figure has admitted that none of the terrible consequences that were supposed to follow health reform - mass cancellation of existing policies, soaring premiums, job destruction - has actually happened.

The point is that we're not just talking about being wrong on specific policy questions. We're talking about never admitting error, and never revising one's views. Never being able to say that you were wrong is a serious character flaw even if the consequences of that refusal to admit error fall only on a few people. But moral cowardice should be outright disqualifying in anyone seeking high office.

Think about it. Suppose, as is all too possible, that the next president ends up confronting some kind of crisis - economic, environmental, foreign - undreamed of in his or her current political philosophy. We really, really don't want the job of responding to that crisis dictated by someone who still can't bring himself to admit that invading Iraq was a disaster but health reform wasn't.

I still think this election should turn almost entirely on the issues. But if we must talk about character, let's talk about what matters, namely intellectual integrity. □

HENG  
LIANHE ZAOBAO  
Singapore  
SINGAPORE



## When The City of Baltimore Burned



NICHOLAS KRISTOF  
© 2015 New York Times

Conservatives have sometimes been too quick to excuse police violence. And liberals have sometimes been too quick to excuse rioter violence.

It's outrageous when officers use excessive force against young, unarmed African-American men, who are 21 times as likely to be shot dead by the police as young white men. It's also outrageous when rioters loot shops or attack officers.

So bravo to Toya Graham, the Baltimore mom captured on video grabbing her teenage son from the streets and frog-marching him home. The boy wilted: It must be humiliating to be a "badass" rioter one moment and then to be savagely scolded in front of your peers and sent to your room.

"That's my only son, and at the end of the day I don't want him to be a Freddie Gray," Graham later told CBS News. It was of course Gray's death, after an injury at the hands of the police, that set off the rioting.

On social media, there were plenty of people making excuses for rioters - a common refrain was "nothing else works to get attention." But to their great credit, African-American leaders provided firm moral guidance and emphasized that street violence was unconscionable.

President Barack Obama set just the right tone.

"When individuals get crowbars and start prying open doors to loot, they're not protesting. They're not making a statement. They're stealing," Obama said. "When they burn down a building, they're committing arson. And they're destroying and undermining businesses and opportunities in their own communities."

Or as Carmelo Anthony, the New York Knicks basketball star who grew up in Baltimore and has invested in a youth center there, put it: "We need to protect our city, not destroy it."

Yet as Obama, Anthony and other leaders also noted, there are crucial underlying inequities that demand attention. The rioting distracts from those inequities, which are the far larger burden on America's cities.

That also represents a failure on our part in the U.S. news media. We focus television cameras on the drama of a burning CVS store but ignore the systemic catastrophe of broken schools, joblessness, fatherless kids, heroin, oppressive policing - and, maybe the worst kind of poverty of all, hopelessness.

The injustices suffered by Freddie Gray began early. As a little boy he suffered lead poisoning (as do 535,000 U.S. children ages 1 to 5), which has been linked to lifelong mental impairments and higher crime rates. In Gray's neighborhood, one-third of adults lack a high school degree. A majority of those aged 16 to 64 are unemployed.

And Baltimore's African-American residents have often encountered not only crime and insecurity but also law enforcement that is unjust and racist. Michael A. Fletcher, an African-American reporter who lived for many years in the city, wrote in The Washington Post that when his wife's car was stolen, a Baltimore policeman bluntly explained the department's strategy for recovering vehicles: "If we see a group of

young black guys in a car, we pull them over."

Likewise, the Baltimore jail was notorious for corruption and gang rule. A federal investigation found that one gang leader in the jail fathered five children by four female guards. Wretched conditions are found to some degree in parts of many cities, and Shirley Franklin, the former mayor of Atlanta, told me that when we tolerate them, we tolerate a combustible mix.

"It's not just about the police use of force," she said. "It's about a system that is not addressing young people's needs. They're frankly lashing out, and the police force issue is just a catalyst for their expression of frustration at being left out."

Whites sometimes comment snidely on a "culture of grievance" among blacks. Really? When tycoons like Stephen Schwarzman squawked that the elimination of tax loopholes was like Hitler's invasion of Poland, now that's a culture of grievance.

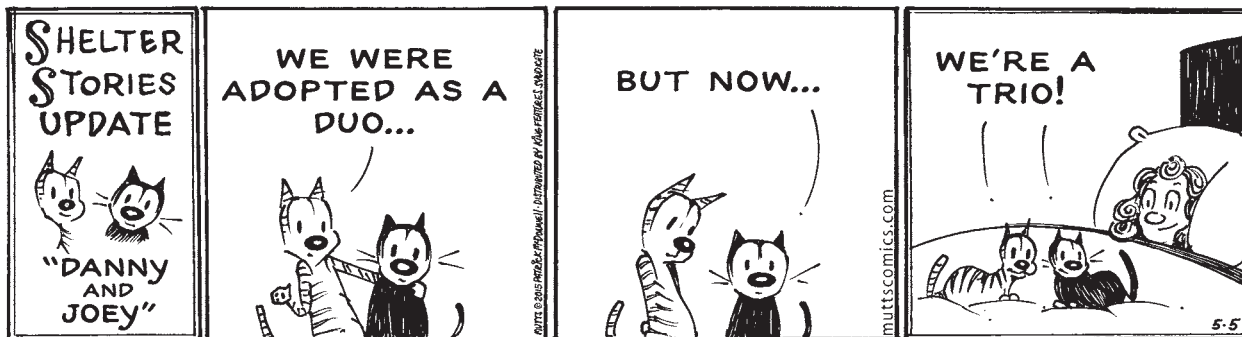
If wealthy white parents found their children damaged by lead poisoning, consigned to dismal schools, denied any opportunity to get ahead, more likely to end up in prison than college, harassed and occasionally killed by the police - why, then we'd hear roars of grievance. And they'd be right to roar: Parents of any color should protest, peacefully but loudly, about such injustices.

We've had months of police incidents touching on a delicate subtext of race, but it's not clear that we're learning lessons. Once again, I suggest that it's time for a Truth and Reconciliation Commission to step back and explore racial inequity in America.

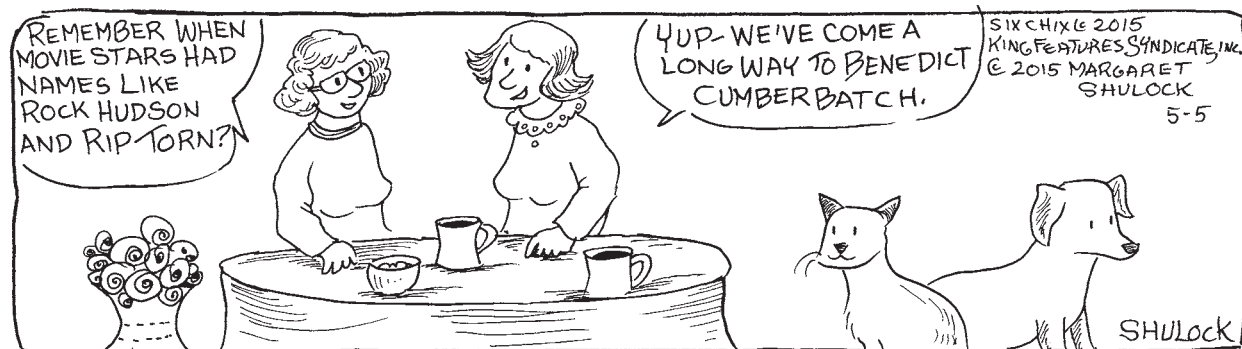
The real crisis isn't one night of young men in the street rioting. It's something perhaps even more inexcusable - our own complacency at the systematic long-term denial of equal opportunity to people based on their skin color and ZIP code. □



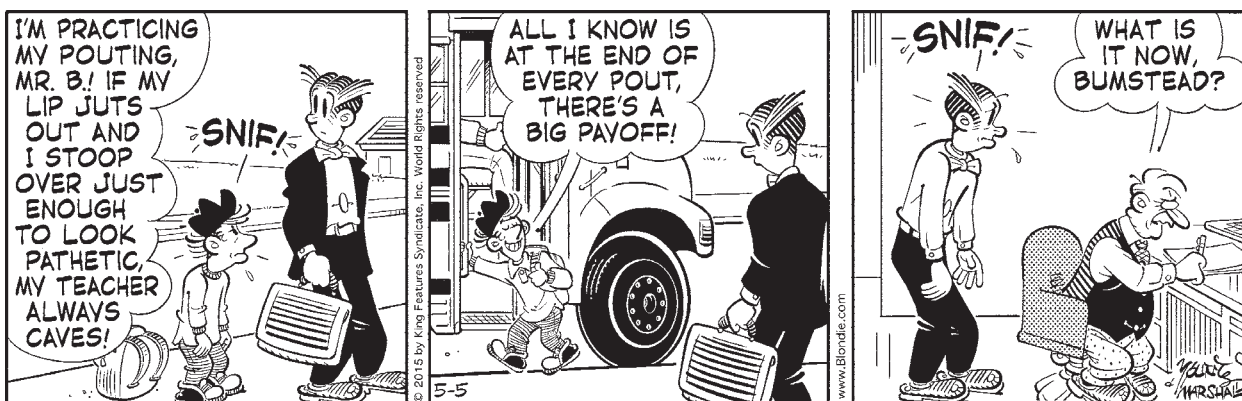
## Mutts



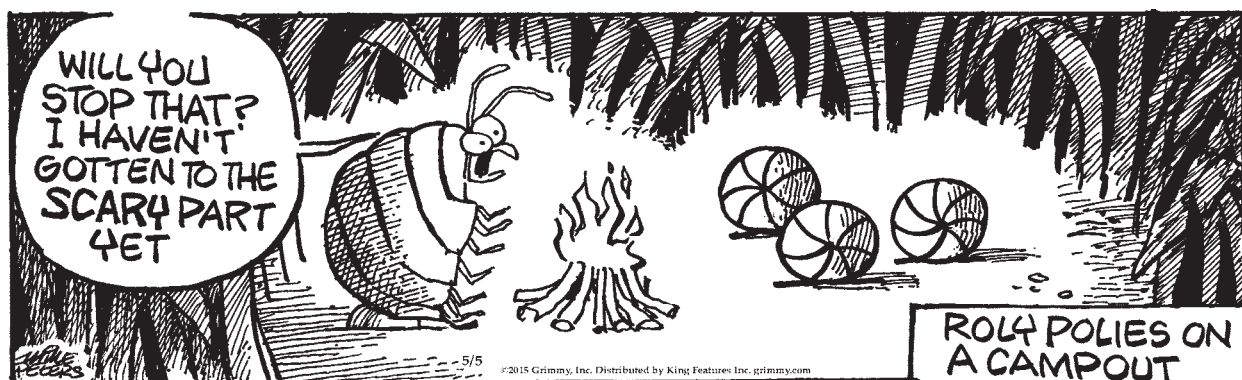
## 6 Chix



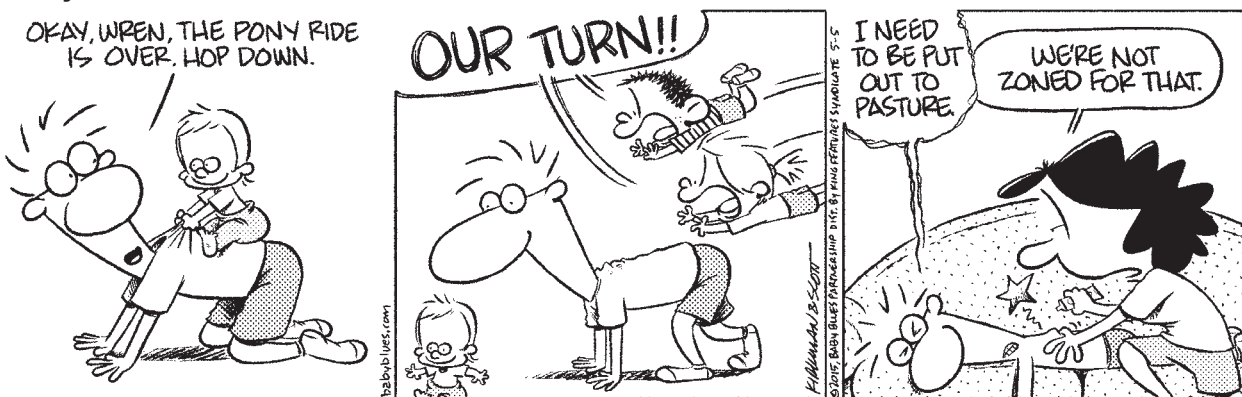
## Blondie



## Mother Goose & Grimm



## Baby Blues



## Zits



## Conceptis Sudoku

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|   |   |   |   |   | 6 |   | 4 |   |
|   |   |   |   | 3 | 2 | 7 |   | 8 |
|   |   | 3 |   | 7 |   |   | 2 |   |
|   |   |   |   |   |   |   | 6 | 9 |
|   | 8 | 9 |   | 2 |   | 3 | 5 |   |
| 6 | 2 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|   | 3 |   |   | 9 |   | 8 |   |   |
| 8 |   | 5 | 7 | 4 |   |   |   |   |
|   | 1 |   | 5 |   |   |   |   |   |

Difficulty Level ★★

5/05

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 6 | 1 | 5 | 9 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 3 | 7 |
| 2 | 8 | 4 | 7 | 1 | 3 | 9 | 6 | 5 |
| 3 | 9 | 7 | 8 | 6 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 2 |
| 8 | 7 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 9 | 6 | 5 | 3 |
| 9 | 4 | 3 | 6 | 5 | 7 | 2 | 1 | 8 |
| 5 | 6 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 8 | 7 | 9 | 4 |
| 4 | 2 | 8 | 5 | 9 | 6 | 3 | 7 | 1 |
| 7 | 3 | 6 | 4 | 8 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 9 |
| 1 | 5 | 9 | 3 | 7 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 6 |

## ACROSS

- Long hollow cylinder
- Pack animal
- Insulting remark
- Shop window sign in daytime
- External
- Apple's center
- Alpine animal
- "\_\_\_ Jacques"
- Seaweed
- Ms. Funicello
- Like a twisted old log
- Acufi or Orbison
- Singer Bailey
- Use a broom
- Brother of JFK
- Lunch & dinner
- Out of control
- That woman
- Gas, to a Brit
- Fuss & bother
- Hunted illegally
- Ike's initials
- Brother's son
- Embrace
- Theater box
- Move furtively
- Wager
- Baseball's \_\_\_ Jeter
- Thick cords
- Canister
- Spades
- Disgusting larvae
- Stadium fad of the '70s & '80s
- Had a bug
- Bangkok native
- Brewed drinks
- Just right
- Small mountain
- Crooked
- Not very big
- Egg's center

|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  |    | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  |    | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 |    |    |    |    | 15 |    |    |    |    |    | 16 |    |    |    |
| 17 |    |    |    |    | 18 |    |    |    |    |    | 19 |    |    |    |
| 20 |    |    |    | 21 |    |    |    | 22 |    | 23 |    |    |    |    |
|    |    |    | 24 |    |    |    | 25 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| 26 | 27 | 28 |    |    |    | 29 |    |    |    | 30 | 31 | 32 | 33 |    |
| 34 |    |    |    |    | 35 |    |    |    | 36 |    |    |    |    |    |
| 37 |    |    |    | 38 |    |    |    | 39 |    |    |    | 40 |    |    |
| 41 |    |    | 42 |    |    |    | 43 |    |    |    |    | 44 |    |    |
| 45 |    |    |    |    |    | 46 |    |    |    | 47 |    |    |    |    |
|    |    |    | 48 |    | 49 |    |    |    | 50 |    |    |    |    |    |
| 51 | 52 | 53 |    |    |    |    | 54 |    |    |    | 55 | 56 | 57 |    |
| 58 |    |    |    |    |    | 59 | 60 |    |    |    | 61 |    |    |    |
| 62 |    |    |    |    | 63 |    |    |    |    |    | 64 |    |    |    |
| 65 |    |    |    |    |    | 66 |    |    |    |    | 67 |    |    |    |

Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

5/5/15

## Monday's Puzzle Solved

|        |        |        |
|--------|--------|--------|
| ITSA   | JACOB  | ACTS   |
| NEAR   | ERODE  | GLEE   |
| TALC   | WILDE  | BEEST  |
| OLE    | NEST   | RIFTS  |
|        | STALE  | PAS    |
| PACERS |        | PRIMER |
| ALLAY  | SHEEN  | MAD    |
| TIER   | SLEEP  | MARE   |
| EAR    | STINK  | LINEN  |
|        | SKATED | OUTCRY |
|        | GEM    | TUTTI  |
| ASTHE  | LATE   | PAL    |
| PARA   | LEGAL  | RAKE   |
| EVAS   | LEVEE  | ITIS   |
| SEPT   | FEAST  | BENS   |

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5/5/15

## DOWN

- Loose robe of ancient Rome
- Feeling put-\_\_\_; miffed
- Three-\_\_\_ salad
- Went into

- \_\_\_ much is that doggie in the window..."
- Nickname for Margaret
- Tea variety

- Shack
- Gather crops
- Drawn-out
- Next to
- Delve
- Hair braid
- In an awful way
- Q-tip, for one
- Vigorous
- Heating chamber
- Cruel
- Cincinnati, \_\_\_
- Able to reach high shelves
- Obi fabric, perhaps
- Spike or Bruce



## Riviera casino closes doors after 60 years on Vegas Strip

**KIMBERLY PIERCEALL**  
**Associated Press**

**LAS VEGAS (AP)** — If the ghosts of Frank Sinatra and Liberace were still hanging around the Riviera Hotel and Casino on Monday morning, they wouldn't have found a seat at the bar.

Crowds squeezed onto barstools and milled about the casino floor saying goodbye to "The Riv," a classic that spent 60 years on the Las Vegas Strip and closed at noon.

It's an age reached by few properties along the four-mile stretch of hulking casino resorts mimicking other worldly landmarks or beckoning passers-by with all their wants in one place that have replaced Sin City's recent past.

The Riviera's only remaining elder was the often-renovated Flamingo that Bugsy Siegel debuted in 1947. The Tropicana, which opened in 1957, is close behind.

"The amazing thing about Las Vegas is how soon it forgets itself because it keeps reinventing itself," said Jeff Kutash, the dancer, choreographer and producer who brought the aquatic stage spectacle "Splash" to a Riviera stage for 21 years.

The 60-year-old casino-hotel's luster had faded, becoming the place to go for cheap drinks, cheap blackjack and a free photo-op in front with the ladies of topless revue Crazy Girls, posteriors



**Pedestrians pass by the 60-year-old Riviera Hotel and Casino, Monday, May 4, 2015, in Las Vegas. The casino on the Las Vegas Strip will age no more as of noon Monday.**

(Steve Marcus/Las Vegas Sun via AP)

immortalized with a bronze statue of their behinds. But it wasn't always that way.

Long before the buns of bronze were loaded onto the back of a pickup truck Monday, the Riviera was among the first casinos to make this stretch of desert glitter. Like the others, mob money made sure the lights were always on at the Riviera.

Its star wattage started with bejeweled piano man Liberace, the property's first headliner, and its marquee eventually included Frank Sinatra, Engelbert Humperdinck, Tony Orlando and Dolly Parton.

Rat Pack member Dean Martin was a part-owner for a short time. Another former owner married frequent Riviera performer and Golden Globe winner Pia Zadora.

The long-running stage-show "Splash" brought

water, fountains and pyrotechnics to a Las Vegas stage starting in 1985, long before Cirque du Soleil did.

Eventually, the Riviera's casino became the set for "Casino," the 1995 movie featuring Robert De Niro, Sharon Stone and Joe Pesci and based on real-life Las Vegas mobsters Frank Rosenthal and Anthony Spilotro during their 1970s heyday at the Stardust and others. □

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| Week  | room | price        |
|-------|------|--------------|
| 1+2   | 517  | \$ 19,000    |
| 10    | 137  | \$ 9,000     |
| 14    | 348  | \$ 11,500    |
| 8     | 561  | \$ 9,000     |
| 13    | 501  | \$ 9,000     |
| 14    | 349  | \$1 1,000    |
| 9     | 135  | \$ 9,000     |
| 7/8   | 304  | \$9,000 each |
| 10    | 139  | \$8,500      |
| 51+52 | 2547 | \$38,250     |
| 13    | 547  | \$7,500      |
| 16    | 527  | \$4,500      |

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## Italian astronaut brews, sips first fresh espresso in space

MARCIA DUNN

AP Aerospace Writer  
 CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP)

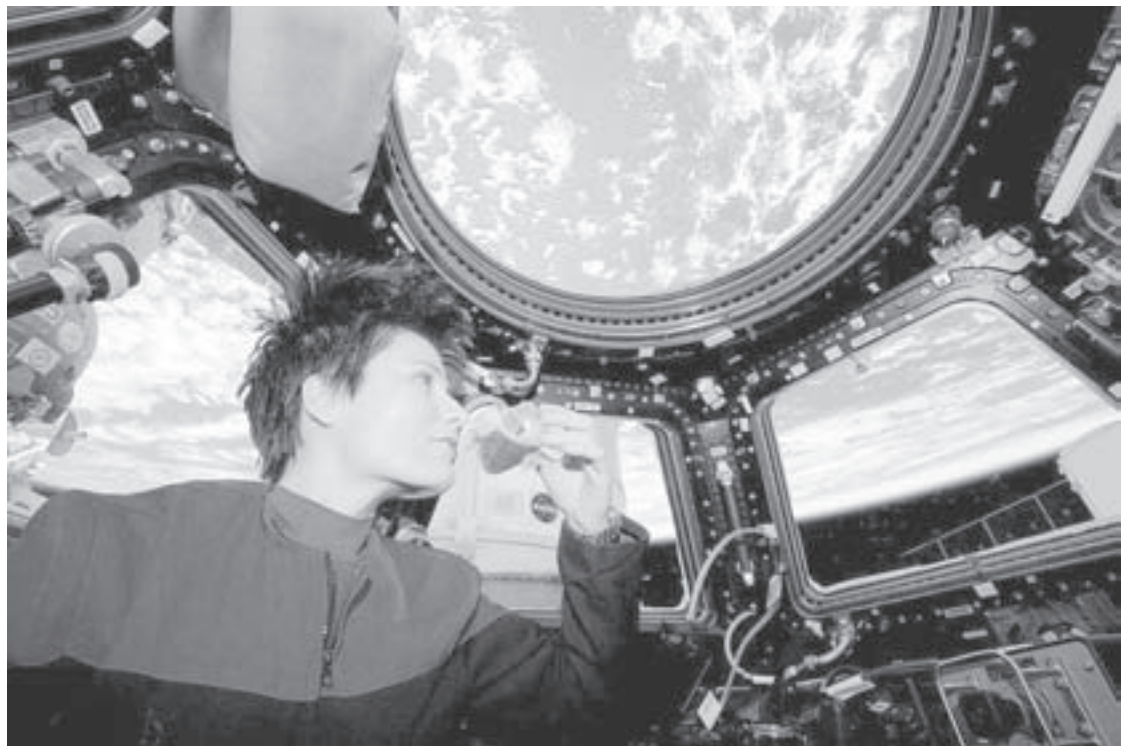
— The first Italian woman in space is now the world's first orbiting barista.

Over the weekend, astronaut Samantha Cristoforetti fired up the first espresso machine in space. She posted a photo of herself on Twitter from the International Space Station on Sunday, sipping from a cup designed for use in zero-gravity. For the special occasion, she put on her "Star Trek" uniform top.

"Coffee: the finest organic suspension ever devised," Cristoforetti said via Twitter, quoting from the old TV series, "Star Trek: Voyager." "Fresh espresso in the new Zero-G cup! To boldly brew....," she added.

Cristoforetti, who returns to Earth next week following a half-year mission, almost didn't get any space espresso. The experimental, Italian-made espresso maker, dubbed ISSpresso using the International Space Station initials, was supposed to arrive in January, but didn't get to orbit until April because of a shipment backlog.

How did she like the space brew? She didn't say on Twitter, but she was all smiles for the cameras and gave a thumbs-up. It had to beat NASA's instant coffee, drunk by straw from a pouch. The espresso actually is brewed in a clear pouch, behind the closed door of the boxy coffee maker, and that's how Cristoforetti and NASA



In this photo posted on Twitter, Sunday, May 3, 2015, and provided by NASA, Italian astronaut Samantha Cristoforetti sips espresso from a cup designed for use in zero-gravity, on the International Space Station.

Associated Press

crewmate Scott Kelly first sampled it. Cristoforetti later switched to the small, pitcher-like zero-g cup, a new American-made item. Italy's 120-year-old coffee maestro Lavazza and the Turin-based engineering firm Argotec, which teamed up on the space

espresso project with the Italian Space Agency, were thrilled to see their 260-mile-high results.

"Today the International Space Station feels a little more like home," Lavazza said via Twitter.

The space espresso maker uses small capsules, or

pods, of espresso coffee. Fifteen coffee capsules flew up with the machine aboard a SpaceX cargo carrier, as well as five capsules for flushing out the system. More coffee capsules are available for launch if requested by the six-person crew. □



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## Grace Lee Whitney, who appeared in 'Star Trek' series, dies

This Dec. 18, 1991, file photo shows Grace Lee Whitney, after receiving a star in the Walk of Fame in Hollywood, Calif., with other cast members of Star Trek.

Associated Press



**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — Grace Lee Whitney, who played Captain Kirk's assistant on the original "Star Trek" series, has died. She was 85. Her son Jonathan Dweck said she died of natural causes Friday in Coarsegold, California, about 50 miles (80 kilometers) north of Fresno.

Whitney played Yeoman Janice Rand in the first eight episodes before being written out of the series. In her autobiography, she wrote that she became an alcoholic before getting treatment and regaining her career with the help of Leonard Nimoy, who starred as Spock in the series. She returned for the

movie franchise, appearing in "Star Trek: The Motion Picture," "Star Trek III: The Search for Spock," "Star Trek IV: The Voyage Home" and "Star Trek VI: The Undiscovered Country."

Dweck said his mother dedicated the last 35 years of her life helping people with addiction problems, some of whom she met at "Star Trek" conventions.

"Over time, she became appreciative of her short time on 'Star Trek' because she developed meaningful relationships with the fans, Leonard Nimoy and other cast members," Dweck said. Besides Jonathan, she was survived by her other son, Scott Dweck. □

## Fox renews 'The Simpsons' for 2 more seasons

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — "The Simpsons" will keep the satire coming for at least two more seasons. Fox said Monday it has renewed the animated series for its 27th and 28th seasons, which will carry it to a total of 625 episodes. The tale of Springfield and the Simpson family is TV's longest-running scripted nighttime series.

"The Simpsons" cast includes Dan Castellaneta as dad Homer — with his trademark "d'oh!" — and Julie Kavner as mom Marge. The network's announcement included a boast from Homer that his doughnut addiction helped him outlast David Letterman, Jon Stewart and Dr. McDreamy from "Grey's Anatomy." □

## Lawyer says Joni Mitchell may be released from hospital soon

**ANTHONY McCARTNEY**  
AP Entertainment Writer

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — Folk singer Joni Mitchell may be released from the hospital soon but still cannot confer with doctors about her medical care or long-term treatment, an attorney told a judge on Monday.

The assessment by attorney Alan Watenmaker compelled a judge to place the singer-songwriter's longtime friend in charge of health care decisions for Mitchell.

Superior Court Judge David S. Cunningham III appointed Leslie Morris, Mitchell's friend for more than 40 years, as the singer's conservator during a brief hearing Monday. Morris will now be able to confer with doctors and make decisions about Mitchell's treatment and lifestyle when she leaves a Los Angeles hospital.

An attorney appointed to represent Mitchell's interests agreed that Morris should receive emergency conservatorship authority. "I believe that it is very necessary," Mitchell's court-appointed attorney Rebecca Thyne told Cunningham.

Mitchell, 71, has been hospitalized since March 31 for undisclosed reasons. No further information about Mitchell's health or prognosis was discussed during Monday's hearing, and Watenmaker declined comment after the proceedings.

The eight-time Grammy winner has no relatives who can serve as her conservator, which led to Morris filing a petition last week stating that her friend was unconscious and unable to make decisions about her care. A



This March 20, 2008 file photo shows Joni Mitchell, left, and Herbie Hancock perform as part of Nissan Live Sets on Yahoo! Music in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

message posted on Mitchell's official website, however, stated that the singer was alert and is expected to make a full recovery. The conflicting information was not addressed at Monday's court hearing. Morris will not have any control over Mitchell's finances.

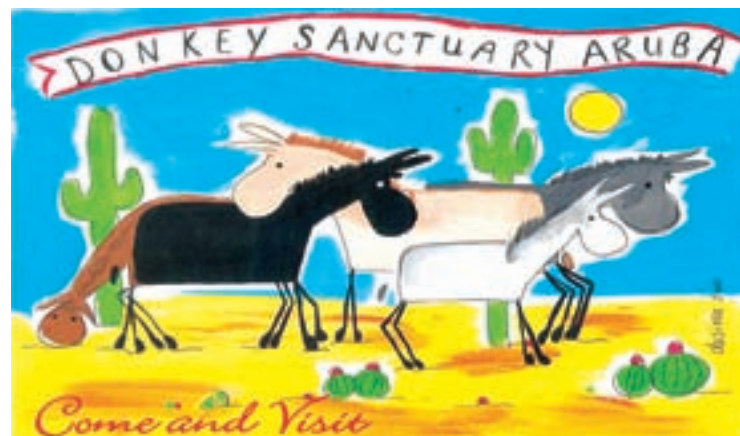
In addition to winning multiple Grammy Awards, Mitchell was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1997.

She started her career in her native Canada before moving to Southern California, where she became part of the flourishing folk scene in the late 1960s. Her second album, "Clouds,"

was a breakthrough with such songs as "Both Sides Now" and "Chelsea Morning," winning Mitchell the Grammy for best folk performance.

Her 1970 album, "Ladies of the Canyon," featured the hit single "Big Yellow Taxi" and the era-defining "Woodstock." The following year, she released "Blue," which ranks 30th on Rolling Stone magazine's list of the "500 Greatest Albums of All Time."

Her musical style integrates folk and jazz elements, and she counts jazz giants Charles Mingus and Pat Metheny among her collaborators. □





# Going inside Big Bird, a film takes wing with Carroll Spinney

**FRAZIER MOORE**  
AP Television Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — He has lent body and soul to a certain 8-foot-tall 6-year-old for nearly half a century, all the while hidden from sight.

Now Carroll Spinney drops his fine-feathered obscurity (and emerges from his garbage-can fortress as Oscar the Grouch) for an enchanting film portrait, "I Am Big Bird: The Carroll Spinney Story," which celebrates this "Sesame Street" puppet master who, at age 81, continues to breathe life into a pair of the world's best-loved personalities.

The documentary will be available starting Tuesday on iTunes and video-on-demand and arrives in theaters nationally May 15.

"Why now?" says Spinney with a smile. "Well, I'd rather see it come out while I'm alive."

In a recent joint interview with Debra, his onetime colleague and his wife of nearly 40 years, Spinney, sporting shaggy silver locks, a trim beard and a self-effacing manner, calls the film "kind of flattering, 'cause I was never cool. But Big Bird and Oscar are cool to people."

The film, produced by producers Dave LaMattina, Chad Walker and Clay Frost, has been in the works for five years. No wonder. It



In this April 10, 2008 file photo, puppeteer Carroll Spinney, who voices Big Bird and Oscar the Grouch, is interviewed during a break from taping an episode of Sesame Street in New York.

Associated Press

draws on a wealth of material from Sesame Workshop, as well as the personal archive built over a lifetime by Spinney, an early adopter of 8mm movies and, in the 1970s, the earliest personal video.

"When you saw the carloads of photographs and movies leaving our house with the filmmakers," says Debra Spinney, "you knew it would take them forever to look through all that stuff."

They had a lot to wade through all right — a chronicle of a ground-breaking series, a one-of-a-kind artist

who helped make it triumphant, and the storybook marriage that kept him inspired.

His childhood wasn't so idyllic. Growing up in Waltham, Massachusetts, he was a shrimpy kid with big ears, a girl's name and a love of what the other boys derided as dolls. He had seen a puppet show when he was 5 and was hooked by what seemed a perfect way to express himself.

"Somehow, I was shy enough to not care about being seen," he explains. "And I figured if I could

ever get on a TV show with a character that I enjoyed doing, it might even get famous.

"And," he sums up with a grin, "voila."

In between, he spent years in local kids' TV playing kooky characters and performing with a variety of puppets. Then he met Jim Henson at a puppetry festival. The Muppets virtuoso was helping put together an innovative children's show for public television. Bringing Spinney on board, he handed his new hire a couple of challenging new characters. One was Os-

car the Grouch, a paragon of negativity, albeit lovably so, while the other, by chance, was Oscar's polar opposite: a towering chick-child with a sunny-day disposition and a literally wide-eyed view of the world.

Big Bird was largely in synch with Spinney's own upbeat sensibility, but that doesn't mean playing him isn't grueling. The film uncovers the claustrophobic contortions to which Spinney has subjected himself since "Sesame Street" premiered in 1969. His right hand is raised aloft inside the creature's 5-pound head to animate its buggy eyes and 18-inch-long beak. His left arm controls the Bird's left wing. He furnishes its voice in real time while interacting with other characters he can see only on a tiny monitor strapped to his chest, with strips of his script taped around the screen for him to follow.

The first season, it was even trickier: He had no monitor. He was effectively flying blind.

"And at first, Jim wanted you to walk backwards," Debra reminds her husband.

"That way," Spinney laughs, "he thought the legs would bend properly (at the knees), like a real bird's. I said, 'Jim, I kind of reject that idea.'" □



This photo provided by YouTube Space LA shows, Mike Tompkins, left, and Gonzo of the Muppets.

Associated Press

**DERRIK J. LANG**  
AP Entertainment Writer  
**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — It's time to play the music. It's time to light the lights. It's

time to stream the video. The Muppets are appearing in skits and other online videos with several YouTube stars, including Mike

## The Muppets to team up with several YouTube stars

Tompkins, Lindsey Stirling, Elliott Morgan and John and Hank Green.

The videos were filmed on location at YouTube Space LA, a new production facility operated by the streaming service in West Los Angeles.

"It's not every day that our YouTube creators get to work with the world's most famous frog, the world's most beautiful pig, a stand-up comedy bear and the drummer of the almost-legendary band, the Electric Mayhem," said YouTube Space LA head

Liam Collins in a statement. The collaboration kicked off last month when Gonzo, Rizzo and Kermit dopelgänger Constantine popped up in a detective-themed video on YouTube's VSauce3 channel. The video has already amassed more than 1 million views.

Other upcoming appearances will include Dr. Bunsen Honeydew and Beaker answering science-related questions on the Mental Floss channel and the whole Muppet gang performing "Pure Imagina-

tion" with violinist Stirling on her channel.

"The Muppets have been entertaining and inspiring YouTube audiences for several years, and we are thrilled to re-engage current fans while capturing new ones through these exciting collaborations," said Muppets Studio vice president Debbie McClellan.

YouTube is celebrating its 10th anniversary throughout the month of May. The streaming service opened with its public beta launch in May 2005. □



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